

Appendix C

Transcripts of Public Meetings

C-1 New York Scoping Meeting - July 9, 2013

C-2 New Jersey Scoping Meeting - July 10, 2013

Appendix C-1

New York Scoping Meeting - July 9, 2013

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INFORMATIONAL OPEN HOUSE & PUBLIC SCOPING
MEETING, US COAST GUARD AND THE MARITIME
ADMINISTRATION, PORT AMBROSE PROJECT

July 9, 2013
4:30 p.m.
80 West Broadway
Long Beach, New York

P R E S E N T :
RODNEY BACHMAN, US COAST GUARD
KEITH LESNICK, MARITIME ADMIN, MARAD
TIM FEEHAN, TETRA TECH, BOSTON, MA
LYNN GOLDHAMMER, MODERATOR, BEACON CONSULTANTS

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2 [TIME NOTED: 4:45]

3 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you all for
4 coming. I just want to let you know before we
5 get started that in a case of an emergency, the
6 stairs to leave here are right next to the
7 elevator that you came up. Also, if you have
8 any need for the restroom right outside this door
9 and to the left is a women's room. The men's room
10 is at the end of the hallway to the right.

11 All right. Now, just getting started, my
12 name is Lynn Goldhammer and I'm the Facilitator
13 this evening. I'm with Beacon Consultants from
14 Princeton, New Jersey and here at the panel is
15 Mr. Roddy Bachman from the US Coast Guard,
16 Mr. Keith Lesnick from the Maritime Administration
17 and Mr. Tim Feehan from Tetra Tech. We also have
18 over there to your left, Ms. Charmaine DeRosa.
19 She is a Court Reporter. So, she is going to be
20 taking down everything that's said and put it in
21 and that will be the notes for the evening. Okay.

22 As for me, the Facilitator, my job is to
23 focus on the process adhere. I'm responsible
24 for keeping things on time and on track.
25 The panel will discuss the project and then

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2 we're going to have public discussion. When we
3 have the public discussion we're going to have
4 the elected officials speak first and then we'll
5 have anyone from the State, Federal or Local
6 governments and then the public will be given an
7 opportunity to speak. We have a lot of speakers.
8 We have like six pages of people.

9 So, what I'm going to do when we get to that
10 part is I'm going to call the person who gets to
11 speak as well as the next person and the next
12 person, the person on deck, will come up and be
13 ready and behind the speaker so that we can move
14 right into the next discussion.

15 As for the ground rules, I posted them over
16 there in the back, and over here also. I'll go
17 into further detail on that but basically, just
18 so you know, each speaker will be given three
19 minutes to speak. I'll hold up different colored
20 folders so that you'll know how much time you have
21 remaining. When there's one minute remaining I'll
22 hold up the blue folders so you'll know it's time
23 to start wrapping up. When there's fifteen
24 seconds left I'll hold up a yellow folder so you
25 know it's really time to start getting to the end

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2 point, and then when we get to red, you have no
3 more time remaining and we need to move on to the
4 next person.

5 I also want to just really reiterate to people
6 that we really need to listen respectfully to
7 everybody and what they have to say, and this is
8 especially critical because we do have a Court
9 Reporter to take notes. So, we need to be able to
10 hear everyone. So, no applauding, booing or
11 whatever else,

12 We need to have the statements and just
13 move on so that everyone can be heard.
14 Now, I'd like to hand it over to Mr. Bachman.
15 Thank you.

16 MR. BACHMAN: Thank you, Lynn.
17 Good evening and welcome, ladies and gentlemen,
18 I hope you had the opportunity to attend our
19 informational open house across the hall. I'm
20 now going to welcome you to the Public Scoping
21 Meeting, for Port Ambrose Deepwater LNG Port.

22 My name is Rodney Bachman, I'm Project Manager
23 in the Deepwater Port Standards Division in the
24 US Coast Guard Headquarters. Lynn is going to
25 address the other people here.

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2 In a few minutes my Colleagues will provide
3 you with an overview of their agency organizations
4 or roles and responsibilities regarding Port
5 Ambrose Deepwater License Application. First, I'd
6 like to give you a brief background on the
7 process.

8 In November 2002 Congress passed the Maritime
9 Transportation Security Act which amended the
10 Deepwater Port Act in 1974, adding the Importation
11 of natural gas. Since that addition of natural
12 gas, the Coast Guard and Maritime Administration
13 received eighteen applications for natural gas
14 deepwater ports. One of those applications was
15 submitted September 28, 2012 by Liberty Natural
16 Gas to own, construct and operate a natural gas
17 deepwater port in Federal waters of the New York
18 Bight, approximately seventeen nautical miles
19 south east of Jones Beach, New York, twenty-four
20 nautical miles east of Long Branch, New Jersey
21 and twenty-seven miles from New York Harbor.

22 The application also includes closed loop
23 vaporization, vessels, two submerged lowering
24 buoys, flexible steel riser/umbilicals, anchoring
25 array, subsea manifolds and lateral pipelines,

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2 buried subsea twenty-six inch, nineteen nautical
3 mainline pipeline that would tie into the existing
4 Transco lateral only 2.2 nautical miles south of
5 Long Island and thirteen nautical miles east of
6 Sandy Hook, New Jersey.

7 This project is referred to as Port Ambrose
8 Deepwater Port. As a clarification, this is a
9 different project, under a new application, from
10 the Liberty Deepwater Port proposed in 2010.
11 Port Ambrose is further east as has no show of
12 cross pipeline component, has 2 buoys versus the 4
13 proposed with the last project, and though the
14 Liberty application was amended in November 2011,
15 similar to what was proposed for Port Ambrose,
16 that application amendment was never processed due
17 to withdrawal of the application in April 2012.

18 On June 14, 2013, the Maritime Administration
19 and Coast Guard published a notice on the Federal
20 Register stating that the Port Ambrose application
21 appeared to contain required information to
22 proceed. In that notice New York and New
23 Jersey were identified as adjacent coastal states.
24 This gives government specific authority in the
25 deepwater port approval process, under the

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Deepwater Port Act, to approve or disapprove or notify the Maritime Administration of inconsistencies with State programs relating to environmental protection land or water use in Coastal Zoning Management for which MARAD had a conditional license to make them consistent. An important part of the overall licensing process required by the Deepwater Port Act, is an environmental review, in this case an Environmental Impact Statement, to be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA.

While the Coast Guard and Maritime administration work together in processing Deepwater Port applications, it is the Coast Guard's role to serve as the lead agency in developing the environmental analysis for these projects under NEPA. I will be working with the appropriate Federal and State agency representatives from New Jersey and New York to ensure potential impacts and concerns of each state are addressed.

The Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS was announced in the Federal Register on June 24th.

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2 which also announced this meeting, including
3 instructions for submitting comments. The EIS
4 will describe the nature and extent of the
5 environmental impacts of the proposed action,
6 alternatives, a description of the effected
7 environment an evaluation of impacts of a
8 natural and human environment.

9 We must seek input from the public as well
10 as Federal, State and Local agencies. The intent
11 of this Public Scoping meeting is to receive your
12 input on any issues you think should be considered
13 in the scope of this environmental analysis.
14 I'd like to emphasis that this meeting will
15 not be the only opportunity that you will have
16 to provide comment on this application.

17 Written comments on the scope should be
18 received by July 23, 2013 and not July 2014 as in
19 the notice. The corrected dates should be in the
20 Federal Register Notice today published,
21 correcting the date to July 23, 2013. That
22 being said, yesterday the Maritime Administrator
23 extended the deadline for comments to August 22nd.
24 There will be official notifications transmitted
25 on this. There are letters going to several

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2 individuals. So, August 22nd is the new official
3 deadline for comments.

4 Our environmental consultant, Mr. Tim Feehan
5 to discuss additional comment opportunities in a
6 few moments. For the purposes of tonight, please
7 note that the written and oral comments are given
8 equal consideration, and it is not necessary to
9 repeat them. Written comments may also be
10 submitted to the document management system at
11 regulations.gov, which is the public record for
12 the project.

13 It contains or will contain all of the
14 application, Federal Register Notices, associated
15 documentation, public and agency comments, public
16 meeting transcripts, including this one and
17 the draft and final EIS, as they become available.
18 To issue a Deepwater Port License there are a
19 number of elements that must be considered by
20 the Maritime Administration, which Mr. Lesnick
21 will discuss in a moment.

22 I need to provide a brief overview of the
23 Coast Guard's responsibility regarding the
24 license. I want to make it clear that the
25 Coast Guard is neither opponent or proponent of

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2 any Deepwater Port Project, and emphasis that only
3 after the Environmental Review and license
4 processes have been completed, can there be any
5 activity on the proposed project.

6 Coast Guard and MARAD work together processing
7 the port applications. Although the Maritime
8 Administrator will ultimately decide to approve,
9 or approve with conditions or disapprove a license
10 for this port, Coast Guard will lead the
11 development of the Environmental Impact Analysis
12 as one of the key components for the administrator
13 to make that decision.

14 In fulfilling this role, the Coast Guard
15 must seek input from the public as well as other
16 Federal and State agencies. We would also be
17 responsible for conducting independent risk
18 assessment of the port and operations and
19 equipment to identify potential hazards and
20 Maritime safety and security risk mitigations,
21 include water as management and such managers for
22 safety and security zones in anchoring areas and
23 other navigational measures, and should the port
24 be approved, and for the life of the port, we want
25 approval of the port's design, standards and

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2 construction, commission, operations, security,
3 maintenance and inspection will continue
4 throughout the port's life.

5 The Maritime Administration and other
6 appropriate agencies review the approval of any
7 substantive changes for the property or equipment
8 that could impact the environment or maritime
9 safety and security must be properly evaluated.

10 Finally, ensuring compliance with the various
11 domestic and international laws and regulations
12 for LNG vessels calling into port.

13 At this time I'd like to introduce
14 Mr. Keith Lesnick from Maritime Administration,
15 who will describe the responsibilities of his
16 agency.

17 MR. LESNICK: Good evening. My name
18 is Keith Lesnick and I'm an Associate
19 Administrator of the Maritime Administration.
20 I'd like to thank you all for attending the
21 session today, the Scoping Meeting for the Port
22 Ambrose Deepwater Port Import license application.

23 I think it's important to repeat something
24 that Rodney said, and I should note because I
25 think there is some confusion on this. This is

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2 a license to import natural gas only. We do have
3 the authority to license both import and export,
4 but this particular license application is for
5 importing the natural gas only.

6 The Maritime Administrator ultimately has
7 the authority to issue a Deepwater Port license.
8 We are very pleased to work in tandem with the
9 Coast Guard in processing this application. I
10 should note that we, like the Coast Guard, we
11 are neither a proponent or opponent of these
12 applications when they come to us for a bigger
13 process, and then we'll here. One of the reasons
14 we're happy to be here this evening is to get your
15 views and hear what you have to say about that.

16 Obviously, we're keenly interested in hearing
17 environmental analysis of this project and value
18 our partnership with the Coast Guard.

19 At the end of the Deepwater Port application
20 process, the Maritime Administrator will have
21 a decision to make, where he will either issue
22 the water port license, reject the port license,
23 or issue a license subject to certain conditions.

24 The decision to approve or disapprove the
25 application will be reflected in an official

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2 record of decision issued by the administrator,
3 and a Federal decision would be based upon several
4 assurances: 1) That the applicant is financially
5 responsible. 2) That the applicant is able to
6 comply with the applicable laws, regulations and
7 license conditions. 3) That the Deepwater Port
8 will operate in the National interest and be
9 consistent with National Security and, energy
10 sufficiency and environmental policy codes.
11 4) That the Deepwater Port will not unreasonably
12 interfere with National navigation. 5) That
13 the Deepwater Port will be constructed and
14 operated to prevent or minimize adverse impacts
15 to the main environment. 6) The Deepwater Port
16 will comply with National environmental laws,
17 7) That approved coastal zone management program
18 is in place, and that would be for both New York
19 and New Jersey. 8) That the Secretaries of Army,
20 State and Defense were consulted on the effects
21 on them, and that was considered in the issuance
22 of a license. 9) That the governments of the
23 adjacent coastal states must approve or have been
24 presumed to approve the Deepwater Port proposed
25 application proposal.

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2 It is important to note that the Governor,
3 in this case, the Governors, that they approve
4 the license or they may approve the license with
5 certain conditions, or they may deny the Deepwater
6 Port License. In that case the licenses would not
7 be issued. I should emphasize that the license
8 requirements are stringent and completely
9 enforceable. If the licensee violates the
10 conditions of its license, the Maritime
11 Administration will suspend their license.
12 We have done that in the past, or assist in the
13 operation of the facility until their conditions
14 are met.

15 Further, we consider the Environmental Impact
16 document a major part of the application. We
17 assure you that we'll have substantial bearing
18 on the issue of the final license. We appreciate,
19 very much, your interest and encourage you to
20 express your views and I look forward to hearing
21 from all of you this evening. Thank you.

22 MR. FEEHAN: Good evening. I'm
23 Tim Feehan with Tetra Tech. We are the US Coast
24 Guard's Environmental Consultant, preparing the
25 Coast Guard and MARAD's Environmental Impact

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2 Statement, or EIS, for the proposed Port Ambrose
3 LNG Deepwater Port,

4 I am Tetra Tech's Project Manager for the
5 EIS. I'll provide an overview of the public
6 participation process that is involved in
7 preparing the EIS. Tetra Tech is a science based
8 Environmental consulting firm experienced in
9 preparing EIS's and related studies. My team
10 includes specialists in many resource areas
11 covering environmental sciences, including
12 biologists, chemists, geologists and engineers.

13 We will be doing an independent evaluation
14 of the environmental impacts of the proposed
15 project, and we'll assist the US Coast Guard in
16 preparing the EIS to explain what the impacts
17 would be. The EIS is being conducted in
18 accordance with the National Environmental
19 Policy Act, that was NEPA. Public involvement is
20 a fundamental aspect of NEPA, and is in the US
21 Coast Guard's environmental policies.

22 We are now in the early stage of the EIS
23 process, a step called Scoping, in which we seek
24 early input from the public on potential impacts,
25 and especially sources of information relating to

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2 those potential impacts. It is termed Scoping
3 because we determine the scope of issues that
4 should be included in the EIS as we move forward.

5 The US Coast Guard began the Scoping process
6 by publishing a Notice of Intent, or NOI, to
7 prepare in the EIS in the Federal Register on
8 June 24, 2013. The NOI was also delivered
9 electronically to State and Federal Agencies. The
10 Notice of Intent provided directions from occurred
11 of the Scoping process, and announces the location
12 and time of these public Scoping meetings.

13 In addition, the US Coast Guard distributed a
14 Dear Interested Party letter. This letter was
15 distributed widely throughout New York and New
16 Jersey to Federal, State and Local agencies,
17 elected officials and the public. This provides
18 a project summary and Scoping meeting logistics
19 for those who do not read the Federal Register.

20 A public notice of concerning this meeting
21 was also published in the local newspapers.
22 We're also holding Scoping meetings in Edison,
23 New Jersey tomorrow night. Formal and written
24 comments made today will be recorded and addressed
25 in the Draft EIS.

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2 In addition to providing comments tonight, you
3 may also submit written comments to the docket
4 over the internet, by fax or by mail. Details are
5 provided over on our posters across the hall,
6 especially for the Deepwater Port applications
7 and the NEPA process, Part 2. This is also
8 provided as a handout.

9 Please use only one of the methods to make
10 your comments. At a minimum an Environmental
11 analysis will be completed on the following
12 topics in the EIS: Geology, sediments, water
13 resources, fisheries, wildlife, threatened and
14 endangered species, socio-economics,
15 transportation, cultural resources, marine
16 biology, noise, recreation and esthetics, and
17 reliability and safety.

18 We will consider the environmental effects
19 of construction, operation and de-commissioning of
20 this Deepwater Port. In addition, we will look at
21 the cumulative impact of other foreseeable
22 projects within the project vicinity. One of
23 those possibilities in preparing the EIS is to
24 analyze
25 and arrange alternatives. We will consider

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2 alternative locations for the Deepwater Port,
3 and alternative off shore pipeline routes.

4 We will look at alternative Deepwater Port
5 concepts and alternative LNG technologies. The No
6 Action alternative, or what would happen if a
7 license is not granted, and the project is not
8 built, and as was mentioned earlier, the
9 cumulative impacts of the project will also be
10 considered.

11 The next step in this process will be to
12 prepare the Draft EIS, to announce the
13 availability of the Draft EIS for public review,
14 we will publish a notice of availability for the
15 Draft
16 EIS in the Federal Register and place ads in local
17 newspapers.

18 When the Draft EIS is completed, copies will
19 be sent to Federal, State, Regional and Local
20 agencies and local groups and individuals who have
21 requested copies. Additional copies will be
22 placed in public libraries where the public may
23 review them.

24 The Draft EIS will also be available on the
25 docket via the internet, or by requesting one

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2 from the US Coast Guard. If you have not already
3 done so, please indicate on the registration card,
4 located outside on our sign-in desk, if you would
5 like to receive a copy of the Draft EIS when it
6 becomes available, and a copy will be sent to you.
7 US Coast Guard and MARAD will return to the New
8 York and New Jersey area to hold a public meeting
9 to provide citizens an opportunity to make formal,
10 oral comments concerning the Draft EIS. Resource
11 experts will be present to answer questions and
12 the public will have an additional opportunity to
13 enter comments and concerns into the official
14 record.

15 After the close of the public period on
16 the Draft EIS, we will assist the US Coast
17 Guard in preparing the final EIS including an
18 explanation of how comments were considered.
19 On completion of the final EIS, not part of NEPA
20 in the EIS process, we will hold at least one
21 public meeting in New York and New Jersey to
22 solicit comments on the final EIS and the
23 Port Ambrose license application.

24 Again, the dates, locations and times will
25 be announced in the Federal Register and local

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2 newspapers. When the EIS is finalized MARAD
3 will use it as one of the inputs to their
4 decision on whether to issue the license, not
5 issue the license, or to issue it with specific
6 conditions.

7 As described on one of our posters and this
8 is required to issue a license and construct a
9 Deepwater Port, located across the hall. There
10 are requirements in addition to the environmental
11 impacts that must be considered in the decision
12 of the final license action.

13 Thank you for taking the time to come up here
14 and meet with us tonight.

15 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Please consider our
16 reporter over there. You have three minutes and
17 I'll let you know when you have fifteen seconds
18 I'll hold up a blue folder, a yellow when you have
19 to tie things up, and I'll hold up a red one to
20 indicate that your time is up and the next person
21 will be speaking.

22 Also, I just want to reiterate that this is
23 for you to make comments and not for discussion.
24 We can't really answer your questions. We are
25 just here to give you an opportunity to be heard.

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2 We want to keep any disturbances out of
3 this room. So, no applause, cheering or boos or
4 anything like that because we need to make sure
5 that the Court Reporter can hear what is being
6 said. We don't want any noise that will drown
7 out any speaker, no matter how loud you speak.
8 Okay.

9 We'll start in the following order: The
10 elected officials will speak, and then Federal,
11 State and Local officials, and then individuals
12 will have an opportunity or given a chance to
13 speak.

14 Actually, we're going to call you by name.
15 Since there's so many people, when I call the
16 person to speak, I'm also going to call the next
17 person in line so you can get behind the speaker
18 and be ready for your time to speak. Okay? So we
19 can move everything along.

20 We're going to start right now with the
21 officials who came here and they also get only
22 three minutes. So, I'm just reiterating that.
23 First, we have Councilwoman Eileen Goggin,
24 followed by Nassau County Legislator, Dave
25 Denenberg. Are they here?

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1 COUNCILWOMAN GOGGIN: Good evening.
2 My name is Councilwoman Eileen Goggin from
3 Long Beach. As an Environmental Advocate,
4 Community Leader and Council-person, I'm here
5 tonight to express my concern over the proposed
6 Liberty Natural Gas Port Ambrose Project.
7

8 We the city of Long Beach and its people, have
9 not been apprised of the important details of this
10 project. I, like I believe many of the people of
11 Long Beach, approach this project with serious
12 trepidation and concern. I'm aware that this is
13 only the beginning of this process, and there
14 will be continued hearings. However, I am here
15 tonight to insist that there be a full, thorough
16 and transparent review of the proposed project.
17 The full impact of this project including those
18 who seek to benefit from the project should be
19 exposed and taken into consideration.

20 As we begin, my questions and concerns
21 are quite serious. Some of the initial issues
22 that I believe will need to be addressed during
23 this process include the potential environmental
24 impact to our waterfront, our ocean, its
25 environment, our residents and our wildlife.

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2 The security concerns that this project proposes,
3 the health and safety concerns, the cost benefit
4 concerns, the potential for gas explosions, and
5 tanker accidents, and the economic impact to our
6 community,

7 We are only eight months after the devastation
8 of Sandy. Our residents and our businesses are
9 still recovering and our focus has been on that
10 recovery here in Long Beach. We believe that our
11 continued recovery and the needs of our community,
12 must be taken into consideration throughout this
13 review. I'm here tonight and I will continue to
14 be here throughout this entire process to stand up
15 for the residents of Long Beach. I'm the city who
16 will be keeping a sharp eye on this process as it
17 moves forward. Thank you very much.

18 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Can we now have
19 Legislator Dave Denenberg, followed by Harvey
20 Weisenberg.

21 MR. DENENBERG: I'm Nassau County
22 Legislator Dave Denenberg. First and foremost,
23 I think that it's imperative that the public,
24 the public, have more information, more hearings,
25 more time for comments, and more opportunity

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2 to ask questions and to find out about what's
3 a massive and major project.

4 I was out. My district is Seaford, Wantagh,
5 Bellmore, Merrick and Freeport. I was in Seaford
6 and Wantagh today, throughout the day, with people
7 who are trying to get back into their homes.
8 People are worried about recovering from the
9 storm and they're doing a great job recovering,
10 but people are trying to get into their homes.
11 They don't know about this project. They
12 don't have an opportunity to know about it.

13 The original July 14th, July 23rd, less
14 than thirty days -- I think it was twenty-two
15 days. Thank you for extending it, but how about
16 90 or 120 days? Give people some real comment
17 period. You know what I mean.

18 The information that you said, that this is
19 for import only. Is the US Maritime and Coast
20 Guard administration or Maritime Administration,
21 and Coast Guard process, once this is built as an
22 import facility, the same opportunity, the same
23 review, the same environmental impact studies
24 if it becomes an export facility? And if it's an
25 export facility a lot of people are concerned

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2 that that would promote fracking. As an import
3 facility, I don't really understand the economics.
4 I do know that natural gas produced here is cheap,
5 cheaper than foreign production, even Trinidad.
6 So, how does it make economic sense? Aside from
7 security risks as well. How are those being
8 addressed? We're worried about security risks.
9 We're also worried about importing natural gas.
10 We're also worried about is natural gas really a
11 cleaner fuel. It's still a fossil fuel. Those are
12 all issues and information that we have a right to
13 know. Nineteen miles out will be aborted and 2
14 miles out would be a connection. In between
15 there's twenty or so miles of pipeline. How is
16 that going to effect our environment? How is
17 that going to effect commercial fishing and
18 recreation?

19 We have a right to know and 30 days and 2
20 hearings, one here and one in Edison is not enough
21 time for our comments to become part of that
22 Environmental Impact Statement.

23 I sponsored a bill that that says fracking
24 waste can't be brought to be treated in our
25 Nassau County Sewage Treatment Plants. I'm

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2 proud of that. If this is import only, answer
3 the questions of how we would be protected from it
4 becoming export.

5 Let me just close by saying, we need more
6 information. We need more hearings. We need
7 our time for comment and we need an opportunity
8 to be heard and to get that information. Thank
9 you.

10 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Mr.
11 Denenberg. Next, we have Harvey Weisenberg, State
12 Assembly followed by Phillip Goldfeder, Assembly
13 Member 23rd District.

14 MR. WEISENBERG: I'm Assemblyman
15 Harvey Weisenberg. We had a similar proposal
16 approximately three years ago. I, as an elected
17 official, and as an educator, gave an opportunity
18 to the project to be able to explain what they
19 really wanted to accomplish, and what they were
20 going to do here.

21 Well, we had a public meeting, and I really
22 wanted you to know that the people of Barrier
23 Beach, and I want you to understand that first of
24 all I'm an elected official for twenty-four years
25 in Albany. I'm on the Environmental Conservation

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2 Committee for twenty-four years. The Long Island
3 Delegation, that represents Long Island, Democrat
4 or Republican, worked together in union. This
5 reminds me what is taking place in western New
6 York and what the consequences could be.

7 Question: Is the reward greater than the risk
8 involved?

9 You want to talk about fracking? Let's talk
10 about what the plan is here. Our sole source of
11 water supply is in Lloyd Aquifer that's out here.
12 I stopped Mayor Bloomberg from coming in and
13 taking our water so that they can pipe it up in
14 case of an emergency, and they would send treated
15 water down to our Lloyd. Any geologist or anyone
16 who has an knowledge knows that our water is 6,000
17 pristine years old, and we're not going to take
18 any changes on risking anything.

19 When my public responded, my city, which is
20 full of environmentalists, when you live on the
21 beach you learn to appreciate what God has given
22 you, they're not going to take any changes and
23 risk the health and safety of our people or the
24 environment that we live on and represent.

25 So, I'm going to give you a heads up on this,

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2 because about 90% of the people that responded
3 from our research, as a Legislator in the State of
4 New York and from this region, nobody was wanting
5 to take this chance.

6 I don't care about the financial aspects or
7 anything. I care what God has given us, the
8 Barrier Beach, for the people who live hear love
9 the environment, and for the health and safety of
10 our children and our grandchildren. So, I want to
11 give you a heads up on this because I'm going to
12 tell you that the city, in my conversations
13 briefly that had taken place, that we're going to
14 do everything we can to make everybody aware.
15 So, we will listen to our public, and our public
16 will respond to us, and then I'll guarantee you'll
17 hear from me again. I want to let you know.

18 I thank you for being here, but I really want
19 you to know how sensitive it is because we went
20 through hell there with the storm. I want you
21 to know how close knit this community is.
22 The diversity of our population, the caring for
23 each other, we're not going to let any project
24 that can endanger the health and safety of our
25 children and grandchildren to come.

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2 So, I thank you being here and I think we
3 need some more time to for you to hear the
4 response that you're going to receive. Thank
5 you for being here tonight.

6 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you Mr.
7 Weisenberg. Next we'll have Phillip Goldfeder,
8 Assembly Member 23rd District.

9 MR. GOLDFEDER: Of course let me thank
10 Harvey Weisenberg, who is tremendous ally and
11 colleague and mentor of mine in Albany, and a true
12 champion of the communities that he represents.

13 So, I'm Phil Goldfeder from the 23rd District,
14 which includes 130,000 people from Southern Queens
15 and Rockaway in New York City. I stand here to
16 tell you that I'm opposed to LNG project and that
17 Queens, New York City stands together tonight here
18 with Long Beach in opposition, protecting the
19 health and safety of all of our families.

20 Quite frankly, what offends me is that you
21 have chosen the absolute minimum amount of public
22 involvement, that choosing to hold one public
23 hearing tonight, and one public hearing in Edison,
24 New Jersey. There are communities all across Long
25 island and all across Rockaway, Southern Queens

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2 Jamaica and Jamaica Bay, all surrounding areas
3 deserve the opportunity to be involved in this
4 process. I'm standing here to tell you on behalf
5 of them, that they oppose it. You can mark their
6 words as well.

7 Our community, Southern Queens and Rockaway,
8 we've been through a lot with Sandy, and our
9 communities need certainty. We need reassurance
10 and by taking this project around-about and as
11 quietly and in the night as possible, and you're
12 saying that this is somehow going to benefit us.
13 That's just a lie. The bottom line is, is that
14 we need certainty. The only thing I'm certain of
15 tonight is that this project is no good.

16 We have fought these projects before and to
17 his credit, Governor Christie has vetoed it, and
18 I'm confident that he'll veto it again. Here's
19 what I say, I together with my colleagues, to the
20 Governor to let him know how you feel but how
21 people in this room feel, and how the people who
22 have been cut out of this process feel, who are
23 opposed to this project. We've beaten this before
24 and I'm quite confident we're going to beat this
25 again. Thank you.

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2 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you very much.
3 The first speaker will be Bruce Ferguson, followed
4 by Jill Wiener.

5 MR. FERGUSON: Jill and I both represent
6 Catskill Citizens for Safe Energy, which is an all
7 volunteer, grassroots organization, centered in
8 Marcellus Shale Region Beach in Upstate New York
9 and we have a vested interest in what happens
10 here, and what decisions are made by this group.

11 Last week, our organization, along with 130
12 other organizations sent a letter to the Maritime
13 Administration asking for a longer public comment
14 period because 30 days is not enough. Most people
15 who even live in the vicinity of where this thing
16 will be built, still will not even know of its
17 potential existence.

18 Last night, after the close of business day,
19 I received a letter from Maritime Administration,
20 from the Coast Guard, saying that they would
21 extend the public comment period by 30 days.
22 That's nice, but it's still inadequate. We've
23 asked for 120 days and that's entirely reasonable,
24 considering the scope and scale and the potential
25 adverse impacts of this project.

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1 The application alone is 4,000 pages. Only
2
3 1,500 pages have been made available to the
4 public, and the Federal agencies that have looked
5 at it, it's called data gaps. There's lots of
6 important missing information. We can't expect
7 to analyze and put thoughtful comments on this by
8 the new deadline of August 23rd.

9 It's still very inadequate. Also, the public
10 hearings are inadequate. There should be hearings
11 throughout the region, including on the shale
12 bearing regions where I live because we're going
13 to be impacted too if this turns into to the
14 import and export terminal, and we'll get to that
15 in a minute.

16 There's no reason to fast track this
17 process. The public has a right to learn
18 about it and comment on it thoughtfully. Now,
19 whether or not this is going to be an import or
20 export terminal is going to be a big subject here
21 tonight. I know that. If it's an import
22 facility, we don't need it. If it's an export
23 facility, we don't want it.

24 In the letter that I received from MARAD, said
25 that this would be an import terminal only, and if

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2 that were the law. It's not the law. I've read
3 the law and it's a judgement call. This terminal
4 can be built with an import license, and then that
5 license can be amended for the port to be
6 re-licensed to export. That is not something
7 that any of us want.

8 No one can deny that this terminal, this
9 port would be a potential export facility.
10 That is clear. A port is a port and it's going
11 to serve a market. If there's no market for
12 imports, they're going to be used for exports.

13 Therefore, it's only reasonable to assume
14 that all of the potential environmental impacts,
15 including the impact for fracking, be evaluated
16 before hundreds of millions are spent on this
17 project. Thank you.

18 MS. WIENER: Ms. Wiener, Catskills
19 Citizens Energy. As Mr. Ferguson has just
20 mentioned, we did receive a letter from the Coast
21 Guard last night, after close of business, that
22 indicated that MARAD and Coast Guard would not
23 be considering up-stream impacts.

24 This last minute information, it's just
25 unacceptable. Port Ambrose may actually be an

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2 export facility in the future, and the more uses
3 for this port is irresponsible.

4 The problem with converting this port is that
5 it puts millions of people, who live on the shale,
6 and live in the shadow of drilling and
7 infrastructure, drilling infrastructure, in the
8 cross-hairs of increased impacts from dangerous
9 shale gas extraction.

10 We have a laundry list of upstream and lots of
11 concern and here are some of the
12 high, well, really the low lights. Impacts on
13 health, abandoned and orphaned wells, decline
14 of agriculture, air contamination, animal
15 mortality, loss of biodiversity, brine spreading
16 which would be toxic waste on public roads, secret
17 and toxic chemicals, consumptive water use,
18 cumulative impact, something that New York State
19 is determined is too difficult to consider in
20 their EIS, flaring of wells, impacts on forest,
21 impacts on hunting and fishing, earthquakes,
22 contamination of the food chain, fracking fluid is
23 also secret and toxic. Even if it's not secret,
24 it's still toxic. Greenhouse gas emissions and
25 climate change, infrastructure, compressor

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2 stations, pipelines, injection wells, methane
3 migration, pipeline safety which is an oxymoron,
4 public lands and National Parks, and the impacts
5 on them produced water, and it's not coming to
6 Nassau County apparently. So, where is it going
7 to go? Radioactivity and regulatory issues.
8 Regulatory issues are a big problem. Fracking
9 is exempted from just about every common sense
10 State and Federal and Environmental Law.

11 So, the laundry list continues but I will
12 just say that residents of the Shale have a
13 responsibility to protect the water, air and the
14 public health for those living down-stream.

15 The permitting agencies must consider the
16 up-stream impacts of approving this port would
17 have on us, and everyone down-stream of us.
18 Once this port is built and licensed for import,
19 it's highly unlikely that when the agencies
20 receive the application for conversion to
21 export that they would ask for Port Ambrose to
22 be dismantled. No one is going to say, Liberty
23 Energy, take our Lincoln Logs and go away.

24 What will happen is the conversion to
25 export will happen, and to believe anything else

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2 is naive. We are New Yorkers and we have not yet
3 ponied up the money to buy the Brooklyn Bridge
4 and we are not going to buy this. Thank you.

5 MS. GOLDHAMMER: I'm sorry but the
6 microphone no longer seems to
7 be working. The next speaker is John Malizia,
8 followed by Richard Schary.

9 MR. MALIZIA: John Malizia. I'm a
10 fisherman, from the Fishermen's Conservation
11 Association, Tuna Club and the Natural Resource
12 Protection Association. I'm here tonight to talk
13 about fishing and the impacts to our ocean.

14 As a fisherman, you know, we want to know
15 what the impacts are going to be to the fishery
16 because one the turret systems are close by the
17 Yankee Wreck and the Coast-wise Wreck,
18 What other wrecks are involved? How close
19 are they, and what are the impacts to the
20 fishermen? What is the safety zone? The
21 safety zone keeps changing or nobody really
22 knows what the real zone is. Is it five hundred
23 meters or is it more or less? Is it only when the
24 ship is in process of gasifying, excuse me .. Yes,
25 gasifying. Is it also when the ship leaves? Is

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1
2 there a safety zone when the ship is in transit
3 and from that point, and how far out do we protect
4 is? Why do we need this project? You know there
5 was two turret systems in Boston, or 13 miles
6 outside of Boston, that had been in there since
7 2008 or 2009. They don't do anything. You very
8 rarely see any imports because of the market.

9 When they built the system each put in over
10 \$350 million dollars and then not get any money
11 back. So, what are they going to do with that?
12 What is Liberty going to do with it? You know,
13 the market is low in the United States. We
14 have issues in Europe, China and India and Japan.
15 So, why do we need it?

16 Also, what are the impacts going to be when
17 we build the wind turbines? That is a renewable
18 resource and something we wanted and something
19 we've talking about. What effects do they have.
20 When we build those turbines will there be impacts
21 to the fishermen? Again, will there be a safety
22 zone, a security zone or whatever. Nobody knows
23 the answers. We need the answers. We need more
24 information.

25 Another piece of information. Ambrose Tower is

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2 not there any longer. Why? Because Ambrose Tower
3 was hit twice in a couple of years, and because of
4 that the Coast Guard brought it down over there.
5 Thank you for your time.

6 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Next we have Richard
7 Schary followed by Lisa Schary.

8 MR. SCHARY: For once I get to go ahead
9 of my wife. Who's proposing this project? Is it
10 Liberty, LNG or Ambrose. They are registered in
11 the Cayman Islands. Right away the hair on the
12 back of my head, what's left, went up when I heard
13 the Cayman Islands. Does anybody know who the
14 principals of this group are? I don't know I
15 looked for the names and didn't find the
16 principal.

17 They're registered in Delaware, which is where
18 everybody goes to hide money after the Cayman
19 Islands in this country, and it's managed by an
20 investment firm in Canada. They hire other
21 companies to do their work, so the other companies
22 prepare the reports and do studies. If you can do
23 a look-see and if you find anything, let us know.

24 How many remember the BP blowout in the Gulf
25 of Mexico? If something goes wrong, will we be

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2 able to find these people? They can pass the buck
3 and everybody can blame everyone else. Who are
4 these people and we want to know who they are?
5 They won't care for the environment necessarily
6 because they stand to make a great deal of money

7 Now, as I said before at public hearings of
8 this nature, the most important thing we have to
9 do in projects like this is always, always follow
10 the money. That's the bottom line with these
11 projects. I'm sure many other speakers tonight
12 will describe in detail what an environmental
13 disaster this project can be on so many levels.
14 I just want to leave everyone here with this
15 advice, you must categorically reject this
16 project because always, and again remember,
17 follow the money. Thank you.

18 MR. GOLDHAMMER: Lisa Schary, and then
19 followed by Julie Sullivan.

20 MS. SCHARY: Lisa Schary. Good
21 afternoon. At least I thought it was going to be
22 a good afternoon. I started my day realizing that
23 another dolphin has beached. The brown tide is
24 back and now another gas barge island or whatever,
25 it's the same thing with a new name.

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1
2 You know what, I'm so glad to see all of these
3 young people here today, because they are our
4 future, and we only have one aquifer, only one
5 source of water, and the bottom line is, Sandy
6 took out our sewage plant. Our people are trying
7 to get back into their homes. They want to enjoy
8 the summer. It's kind of hard, you know, I feel
9 guilty enjoying this beautiful day, looking over
10 at the ocean, and thinking to myself, how many
11 people think this is a bad idea? You know what, I
12 do.

13 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Julie
14 Sullivan, followed by Sean Dixon.

15 MS. SULLIVAN: Good afternoon. I'm Julie
16 Sullivan with Food and Water Watch. Thank you
17 for the opportunity to comment today about Liberty
18 Natural Gas' latest proposal to build a deepwater
19 liquefied natural gas import/export facility off
20 the coast of New York and New Jersey. Of course,
21 just two years ago Governor Christie rejected a
22 nearly identical proposal. We supported that
23 decision then and we expect that the current
24 application won't be persuasive.

25 We are here today to urge you to fully

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1
2 consider the consequences of licensing this
3 project in your scoping process. We maintain that
4 if you do recommend a No Action alternative and
5 reject the application. Now, calling it an import
6 facility is just smoke and mirrors to obfuscate an
7 export facility, LNG. We urge you to not only
8 look at the negative impacts on marine eco-systems
9 and on the future off-shore wind energy
10 production, but also include the negative impacts
11 that licensing exports from this facility would
12 have on communities throughout the northeast.

13 Export would spur more drilling and
14 hydraulic-fracturing or fracking resulting in an
15 even more destructive, economic bust once the gas
16 is gone and industry moves on.

17 We are aware that Liberty's stated intent
18 is to just use this facility for imports, but
19 there's no reason to believe that market forces
20 won't lead them to re-visit that intent.

21 First, current law, as recently amended,
22 makes clear that the requested Deepwater Port
23 License would also allow for export. Second,
24 exports are an essential part of the oil and gas
25 industry's efforts to create new sources of demand

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2 for unconventional natural gas or shale gas.
3 Put simply the drilling and fracking industry
4 needs natural gas prices to rise.

5 Current domestic prices barely make it
6 profitable for them to drill and frack for
7 shale gas given the high capital costs
8 of deep, horizontal drilling, and high volume
9 multi-stage fracking.

10 Natural gas prices in Europe and Asia
11 are a different story and the US Department
12 of Energy has seen a flurry of new applications
13 from companies seeking authority to export
14 natural gas. Current applications would amount
15 to an export capacity equivalent to over 40%
16 of US consumption. There's every reason to
17 believe that Liberty's Port Ambrose project,
18 once licensed, would join this frenzy.
19 Accelerated drilling and fracking to fulfill
20 export contracts will only intensify the negative
21 impacts from communities that sit above the
22 Marcellus Shale. Fracking can be expected to
23 continue. Thank you.

24 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Ms. Sullivan.
25 Sean Dixon followed by Jim Foorah.

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2 MR. DIXON: Thank you very much. I
3 just wanted to clear up two things for the record,
4 and for the people here that have gathered here
5 about this port.

6 First, that is the exact same proposal that
7 was vetoed by Governor Christie. We heard, before
8 this hearing began, that it wasn't processed but
9 it was amended in 2012 of last year. I ask you
10 this, if it hadn't been processed, and Governor
11 Christie hadn't have reaffirmed his veto, a week
12 after the amendment occurred in March of last
13 year, we wouldn't be here today, but Port Ambrose
14 would.

15 So, that project was official. That project
16 was changed and that project was active, and
17 that's the exact same location for the size, scope
18 and impact of the one that we have in front of us
19 today. So, that needs to be clarified on the
20 record.

21 Second, on the issue of exports, we heard
22 this afternoon that this is an import license
23 only. Under the Deep Water Port Act Section 4RB2,
24 on the petition of a licensee, a license can be
25 amended or transferred. So, that petition

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2 requires only written permission from the
3 Secretary of Transportation and the Maritime
4 Administration. All the requirements in the
5 procedure parts of the Deepwater Port Act are
6 written in for the purpose of reviewing
7 applications for licenses, not for
8 reviewing petitions for amendments.

9 It's absolutely clear in the act, that exports
10 can be allowed from this facility with a simple
11 petition from an amendment. We're not saying
12 that you want that to happen, and you're saying
13 you're impartial, but we're saying it could.
14 It occurs everyday and you'll hear for the rest
15 of the night, that possibility is something that
16 is not worth the risk.

17 Why would this happen? Right now, under the
18 Natural Gas Act, exports to any free-trade country
19 has to be approved by law without modification
20 or delay. That's already lead to over 30
21 approvals, 40% of our daily natural gas
22 production, has already been approved for exports
23 overseas.
24 If a sponsor wants to come in from another
25 country, to be brought here to this terminal

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2 for an import, that decision has to be
3 made by that company whether to sell here or
4 to sell somewhere else for 4 to 6 times more
5 money. They're never going to come here.

6 On the exports issue, it's a simple amendment
7 under the Deepwater Port Act would allow domestic
8 natural gas to be sent overseas for four to six
9 times the amount of money they can sell it for
10 here.

11 All of those things have lead to the
12 conclusion, that this is about exports. In
13 the application Liberty's purpose for imports
14 sites Trinidad gas supplies. That country
15 is no longer sending to America because they
16 can get more money overseas. They site the need,
17 the long-term need by the experts in this country,
18 but they're off by 470%.

19 At the end of the day, this port was already
20 vetoed, exact same place and exact same project.
21 It's all about exports. The Federal Government can
22 amend this without review and all of those
23 reviews for licensing only and not for
24 amendments.

25 I'm not saying that you will but you might.

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2 It's something that we can not allow to happen.
3 It's a risk we can't take and it's a risk that
4 Governor Christie was not willing to take when he
5 vetoed this exact same proposal, reaffirmed it
6 less than a year and a half ago today. Thank you.

7 MS. GOLDHAMMER: That was Mr. Dixon and
8 now we have Jim Foorah and then Stephanie Wass.

9 MR. FOORAH: Good people of Long Beach,
10 hearing officials. I live in New York City. I
11 live in Greenwich Village.

12 We have them sneak into town and start
13 building
14 a pipeline without any of us knowing anything
15 about
16 it. If it wasn't for the Energy Project and Occupy
17 the Pipeline, my neighbors still would not know
18 about it.

19 There's a lack of transparency on this
20 project, the lack of timing, the lack of public
21 input, the lack of hearing is applauding and seems
22 to be a continual practice in the industry that is
23 trying to build these places. It's not a new
24 tactic but we're aware as the public that it is
25 going to continue to go on. I expect that to

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2 change. I live in a potential glass zone,
3 highly urban neighborhood, in West Village,
4 Greenwich Village, a potential glass zone.

5 If any of you go on the internet and
6 see what natural gas explosions have done to
7 communities, most of these explosions happen
8 out in areas that have no population.

9 Fossil fuel is ruining the environment for
10 all our children and our grand children. As an
11 old gay man, I happen to care about the
12 generations that will come after me. Your
13 children, my grandchildren. We have already
14 seen extreme weather conditions. The people
15 here do not have to be told about what happened
16 with Hurricane Sandy.

17 Why the hell is Liberty asking to be
18 allowed to put wind towers, having planned for
19 eight years. Liberty, if that's your money in
20 new technology, come back with a plan, where it
21 has energy that is clean and a site that protects
22 the water and the environment. Otherwise, go
23 home. You are not welcome here. Go home and
24 try to sell this dirty project in your own
25 neighborhood. Go home and to your own coastal

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2 city and try to sell this dirty, dangerous, old
3 fossil fuel based project. Thank you.

4 MS. GOLDHAMMER: We now have Stephanie
5 Wass followed by Thomas Gallagher. Is there a
6 Stephanie Wass? No? Then Thomas Gallagher,
7 please and followed by Cindy Zipp.

8 MR. GALLAGHER: Thomas Gallagher from
9 Wantagh. One thing and I don't know, maybe it's
10 just me, but I find that this public assembly
11 is missing one thing. Guess what it is?
12 The American Flag and we should have stood up
13 and say that we are united. This is a real bad
14 things for me. I'm a Patriot and it turned me off
15 to see that there's no American Flag here in this
16 hall.

17 Now, we do know that this gas line goes
18 underneath the water. It's going to change the
19 temperature of the water and it's going to change
20 fish and shellfish life under the water and there
21 are going to be problems there.

22 I did work on a project at Neptune, wanted
23 to put, come down through Jones Beach, and
24 behind the city sewage treatment plant, and put
25 their power station there. If they had done this,

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2 and this storm hit, you wouldn't have electricity
3 today because they could not send any more over
4 here. I feel that this natural gas situation will
5 be the same thing. You can't get the ships in
6 and you can't provide gas for the people, you're
7 going to cut the people off from natural gas.
8 I feel that this is going to start happening.
9 There going to start setting up barges out
10 there loading and unloading ships as cargo.
11 We'll have other import and export items, because
12 we're over seven miles out from the land, outside
13 the environmental area. We have cruise ships
14 outside of Freeport so that they can go out
15 gambling. So, any ships out there can legally
16 do whatever they want. It's not under the County
17 or State Laws.

18 This here I'm definitely against it because
19 it's too short a notice. I only seen it today
20 in Newsday and I only just saw it on Channel 12
21 today. So, in the past few hours only do I think
22 a lot of the people here have been notified.

23 They were not notified in other papers before
24 and on the news media. A lot of people don't
25 understand this. I don't use natural gas.

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2 Other people that do need it pay a tremendous
3 amount to get hooked up.

4 In our houses, and I think that it's a valid
5 point, that if you burn natural gas in the house,
6 you're taking oxygen out of the house. You're
7 going to kill the people. They're saying it's
8 a dangerous item and people don't realize this.
9 Once this gets contaminated with water, product
10 that's coming in that's mixed with a new product,
11 such as corn oil and gasoline, these things will
12 start going sour and might not be 100% pure
13 product that we're buying from the companies. I
14 thank you very much, and have a good day. As long
15 as we sit down one more time to hear what we want
16 to hear, not what you want to tell us. Thank you.

17 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you,
18 Mr. Gallagher. Cindy Zipp is next followed by
19 Adrienne Esposito.

20 MS. ZIPP: Good evening. My name is
21 Cindy Zipp and I'm Executive Director for Clean
22 Ocean Action, which is a coalition of one hundred
23 and thirty groups throughout the region from Cape
24 May to Montauk. We've been fighting for almost
25 30 years to keep this region living in a Clean

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2 Ocean economy direction. We've come along way
3 since the bad old days. We're not going back.

4 This proposal is not new. We've heard it
5 over and over and over again. It's the same
6 proposal that has been brought up before in
7 this region, not once, but twice.

8 Clean Ocean Action has been examining
9 liquefied natural gas since 2007 and we've
10 been researching in detail, the impacts on
11 importing as well now as exporting liquefied
12 natural gas. It's bad news for the environment
13 and bad news for the public. It's bad news for
14 the economy. It's bad news for the public economy
15 and it's bad news from a navigational standpoint
16 because you're talking about putting a gigantic
17 target in the middle of the region, which is the
18 busiest port on the Atlantic Seaboard. We've got
19 tankers coming in and out, chemical and oil
20 tankers coming in and out of this harbor and
21 you're talking about a giant combustible facility
22 right smack in the middle of this region.

23 Not only is that threatening for the commerce
24 of the region but also it's threatening from a
25 security standpoint, which is why our Governor in

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2 New Jersey, Chris Christie, vetoed the project.
3 It was not good for the environment, not good for
4 the economy and not good for security. It was
5 very susceptible to sabotage.

6 For you to come back to these communities
7 now, is just unbelievable. Both the Jersey Shore
8 and the South Shore of Long Island are devastated
9 by Superstorm Sandy. To come sneaking back here
10 during the summer time and they're trying to
11 rebuild and they're very busy with very short
12 notice for these public hearings, with a 4th of
13 July holiday in between to try to organize. I
14 have to say, I want to give you all a round of
15 applause for coming out.

16 This is just the beginning of the public
17 outrage for this project. It doesn't make
18 any sense. It's not good for the economy of
19 a clean ocean. All Liberty is offering in return
20 for all the threat to our jobs in every coastal
21 community, the fishing, the diving and the boating
22 and the swimming, is 6 measly jobs. We're
23 saying not to that. We don't need anymore time,
24 go home. We want a clean ocean economy.

25 MS. GOLDHAMMER: We'll have Adrienne

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2 Esposito followed by Ray Ellmer.

3 MS. ESPOSITO: Good evening. My name
4 is Adrienne Esposito and I'm Executive Director
5 for Citizens Campaign for the Environment.
6 We're here today as a grass-roots environmental
7 organization with 80,000 members, from Brookhaven
8 to Buffalo and from Montauk to Medina.

9 We are going to be submitting extensive
10 written comments but tonight it's about brevity
11 and it's just me, and I have three points to
12 make. 1) If we're an organization that fought
13 and won against fighting Broadwater in the
14 middle of Long Island Sound, and I find myself
15 having a fossil fuel deja vu all over again.

16 Let's do a couple of things. Let's dispel
17 the myth that LNG is a bridge fuel to renewables.
18 LNG is not a bridge fuel to renewables. It is
19 a brick wall to renewables. This is a marketing
20 ploy by the energy industry that simply is a
21 disguise to a lot of energy industries to continue
22 to control our world's fossil fuel based economy
23 and strategically extravagant enhancement of
24 energy corporations bottom lines. You know that.
25 I know that. We all know that.

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1
2 Our nation is building LNG facilities off the
3 Gulf Coast and our ocean borders that will
4 once again shackle us to foreign fossil fuels,
5 with
6 not only environmental consequences but also
7 yielding yet to be realized geo-political
8 consequences as well.

9 Replacing oil with natural gas is not a bridge
10 to the future. It's a side-step to continue the
11 status quo. Why is that important for you to know
12 at a Scoping hearing. I'll tell you why, it's
13 called climate change. We find it, to be honest,
14 and I'm not even trying to be funny here, ironic,
15 but also insulting and alarming that we are having
16 this hearing here in the great city of Long Beach.
17 You know why? Because nobody knows better
18 than the people of Long Beach, the impacts of
19 climate change, the life-altering impacts, the
20 economic impacts, the financial, the emotional
21 and devastating impacts of climate change.

22 Ask anyone from Long Beach but don't stop
23 there. Go to Freeport, go to Island Park, go to
24 Oceanside, Marsepequa, Village of Lindenhurst,
25 Village of Babylon. Go to Mastic Beach, go to

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2 Seaford, Patchogue, Oakdale. You know why?

3 We know what it's like to lose it all and yet,

4 we're having a community discussion about

5 shackling ourselves for another 30

6 years to the damn fossil fuels. No.

7 We want renewable energy. We deserve it.

8 We can't lose it all again. Your policies

9 need to change, because we've changed and now you

10 change. That area there has been researched

11 for 8 years. Millions of dollars have been

12 spent from public funding to look at that area

13 for a wind farm. A wind farm is clean, safe and

14 domestically produced energy. Studies have been

15 done on migratory trail migration, bird migration,

16 and --

17 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Your time is up -

18 MS. ESPOSITO: Yes, sure. All of that

19 has been done. We want a wind farm that is clean

20 and safe for us. Thank you.

21 MS. GOLDHAMMER: We now have Ray Ellmer

22 followed by Nick Lynn.

23 MR. ELLMER: Good evening. My name is

24 Ray Ellmer. In 2009, I was Co-Chair Advisory to

25 the City of Long Beach on the LNG project. My

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1
2 investigation determined that Alfonse D'Amato, the
3 former United States Senator was the lobbyist for
4 an Atlantic Sea project, which was 13 miles
5 off shore.

6 This project was in conjunction with a
7 windmill farm. Long Beach is unique because we
8 have major ocean dumping off our shoreline for
9 many years in the New York Harbor, and when they
10 dig up this line, when they dig up the ocean
11 sediment, it's going to release thousands and tons
12 of toxic sediment on to our beaches. This is a
13 residential barrier island with 50,000 residents.

14 Also, there's a person that's missing here
15 tonight and that's the United States Senator
16 Peter King. This is a Homeland Security issue.
17 If you see something, say something. These are
18 tankers, three and a half football fields,
19 two and a half miles of Long Beach, a residential
20 island. This is a Homeland Security issue.

21 This is an environmental issue where you're
22 digging up the ocean. It's also a navigational
23 issue. The gentleman before, from the fisherman,
24 had an excellent point. The Ambrose Lighthouse
25 was decommissioned because cargo ships kept

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1
2 hitting it. Now they want to put LNG Port
3 facilities in the windmill farm area. During
4 Hurricane Sandy, our town was hit by forty-five
5 foot waves. These buoys are going to show up in
6 Manhattan. You know, the south shore of Long
7 Island has paid the price. We have in our city,
8 sewage treatment plants, a polluted rails channel,
9 new discharge 2 miles off of Jones Beach. We
10 paid the price already.

11 Why do they keep showing up at Long Beach,
12 because you have Jerry Kramer, former New York
13 Assemblyman, and United States US Senator, Alfonse
14 D'Amato, they're the lobbyist for the edge in
15 industry. They're bringing these energy companies
16 to our barrier island.

17 Harvey Weisenberg said, Ray, stop talking
18 about it because you're going to be black-listed.
19 The fact of the matter is we're not going to stop
20 talking about it. This is a public safety issue,
21 a Homeland Security issue, and environmental
22 issue. This is protection for generations to
23 come. Thank you. I would just
24 like to submit a letter for Charles Defande
25 [phonetic] to Governor David Paterson at the time

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2 and the unanimous vote of the Long Beach City
3 Council focusing on the three liquefied natural
4 gas projects back in 2009. I'd like to just
5 submit that as part of the record. Thank you.

6 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Next is Nick Lynn
7 followed by Larry Moriarty.

8 MR. LYNN: Hi, my name is Nick Lynn.
9 I'm the Chair of the Certified Foundation Chapter
10 for New York City. We are about 1,000 members
11 strong. There have been so many great points made
12 tonight. I just want to raise a couple of quick
13 things which are: 1) I don't understand why,
14 given all of the sentiment here about doubling
15 down on fossil fuels, why we're being presented
16 with this proposal in our area.

17 I think the main objection that I have is
18 that all the parties that are involved are
19 really really opaque and obtuse. They do not seem
20 to do anything that would reflect any kind of
21 stewardship either towards the environment or any
22 kind of vision towards the future for us
23 energy-wise.

24 Sean's point earlier about how the review
25 process for this particular permit is one thing.

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1 but changing the use of it does not require that
2 kind of a review process. It indicates to me that
3 we're in a position where the local natural gas
4 that's in the shale can easily be pumped
5 to this facility and ostensibly sold overseas to
6 energy markets that are hungry, and the point that
7 I made earlier during the press conference, fuel
8 those economies while those economies invest in
9 new technologies, so that we later will have to
10 buy that technology from them.

12 Here's my main point and I'll close on this
13 early. Why are we getting asked to sacrifice so
14 much. Ask us to sacrifice in our pocketbooks
15 and economically, even environmentally, towards
16 the development of new clean technologies.
17 Don't ask us to put everything on the line
18 so don't worry, there won't be some kind of
19 stalled disaster or terror attack. Don't
20 worry, that won't happen. That is too much
21 to ask.

22 We will gladly sacrifice and take whatever
23 steps that are necessary so that we can create
24 the technologies that we will need in the future
25 instead of having to buy them and selling our

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2 future now to buy them later from someone else.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Larry Moriarty followed
5 by Nick Meola.

6 MR. MORIARTY: My name is Larry Moriarty
7 and I'm a Long Beach resident. I'm the Chair of
8 the Central Long Island Chapter of the Surf Rider
9 Foundation.

10 I'm here to express my grave concern of
11 the proposed industrialization of our ocean.
12 Putting our oceans, waves and beach at risk
13 will hurt our local businesses and economy,
14 people are trying to get back right here.

15 The proposed LNG plan calls for the dredging
16 of the ocean floor, coast of Atlantic Beach
17 stretching for 20 miles covering Long Beach, Lido,
18 Point Lookout, and Jones Beach, putting in a
19 26 inch pipe and terminal to import and possibly
20 export natural gas.

21 Pipe lines and fishing grounds, we've heard
22 about that. There's very little information
23 available and based on the head crushing and
24 head shaking is quite evident. We're asking and
25 we need more information. Our local businesses

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are already starving and will not survive if they have to endure a year or more where there's perception by the public, our visitors, that our ocean is tainted by dredge material or spills from ships that will constantly be docked at the terminals off shore.

Why struggle as a business owner to come back when the key draw to this area, the ocean, is in disrepair. Compound the threat by the separately proposed sewage outflow pipe being discussed and our local economy will literally be a mess.

Businesses do not thrive in ghost towns. Local eye witnesses will tell you stories that how garbage barges that used to short cut their trips for years. Will we ever know if they dredged hazardous material here during their pipe installation?

Who is watching that? How will they be monitored? Economic and monitoring has not addressed before by the list that you gave us in your EIS.

The jobs will not go to local businesses. None of our local business install LNG energy pipe, go figure. The workers are going to come in from out of town, live on boats and fly home, according to their application.

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2 Superstorm, and not even Hurricane Sandy, was
3 responsible for waves recorded at thirty-three
4 feet off Sandy Hook. The waves were measured at
5 the average of the most significant third waves.
6 It's likely that they were fifty foot waves that
7 day. Are they really prepared for fifty
8 foot waves? Is that the milestone?

9 You saw what happened in BP in the Gulf. You
10 saw the effects of fuel and dispersements used are
11 still not understood. We're not convinced that
12 they know what they are up against. Just this
13 past Saturday views of the seventy-three car
14 train that destroyed the downtown area of a small
15 town in Quebec, crashed and a series of explosions
16 from pressurized fuel cars, striking dozens of
17 houses and buildings and forced thousands to
18 evacuate the town. I'm sure those people were
19 told they had no worries about the dangerous
20 cargo that the trains would be carrying. It
21 could never happen to them. Those catastrophes
22 can never be reversed. The promises and claims of
23 safety will not matter to those effected.

24 This proposed project can not be allowed to
25 ruin our city. We already pay some of the

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2 highest taxes in the country here. Our eyes are
3 open. Do you really think we're going to live our
4 lives with half truths. This project threatens our
5 local economy and our tax base. Our oceans should
6 not be for sale.

7 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you,
8 Mr. Moriarty. Nick Meola followed by Jasmine
9 Bobis.

10 MR. MEOLA: Good afternoon. My name is
11 Nicholas Meola, long time resident of Long Beach
12 and local artist. Let me start by apologizing
13 to my neighbors of having my back turned to you.

14 I come here to embrace this project, and
15 I'm asking my neighbors and friends to embrace
16 it also, right now today. It's an engineering
17 project and we have the ability to show the
18 whole world what American ingenuity can be.

19 As an engineering project it will have
20 safeguards. It will have tests all along the
21 time of construction. We, Long Beach, have a
22 wonderful opportunity to help this project along
23 and to change some of our engineering process. By
24 this I mean that very often it's not until the
25 project is built that the evacuation program is

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2 put into effect. We have the wonderful opportunity
3 to reverse that. Let's put the evacuation project
4 first, not last.

5 So, as I'm proposing, and as I'm speaking now
6 at this moment, this facility has now just leaked
7 40% of its fuel as reported by the press, but in
8 actuality it released 80% of its fuel. We've all
9 been there. We know what that's about. That
10 means that tomorrow we have to evacuate. That
11 means the water project stops. That means that
12 the Long Island Railroad can not bring people into
13 Long Beach tomorrow. It can not sell beach
14 tickets. If Long Beach can not sell beach
15 tickets, the Atlantic Bridge will not allow
16 people into Long Beach but only exit Long Beach.
17 This is a wonderful opportunity to see what
18 everyone is made off. Everyone is saying
19 we need more time and we need more information.
20 Nothing can be further from the truth.

21 The reason I say that I'm an artist is because
22 throughout history, we've always turned to art to
23 understand what civilization has been about. The
24 piece of art that I would like to use this evening
25 is the book that is entitled, The Emperor's New

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2 Clothes. In that book, as everyone is biding for
3 more time, and more information, trying to adjust
4 to make things work, it was the children that
5 noticed that the Emperor was naked. There is not
6 nearly enough children here this evening.

7 What we need to do, in my opinion, and
8 embracing this wonderful engineering project,
9 is to draw our children close to us now and
10 inform them that we can not go to the beach
11 tomorrow, and we can not go to the beach for
12 the rest of this year, and I would bet that
13 instead of crying and complaining, they'd be
14 standing by our side, and in doing that we would
15 teach them a valuable lesson because these people
16 are not here today to talk to us. They're
17 here to talk to our children and our
18 grandchildren. They're biding time. Bring your
19 children and have them stand in solidarity teaches
20 them to do it when it's their turn.

21 In closing I'd like to say to my fellow
22 citizens of Long Beach, if you want to be Strong
23 Beach, strength is an act and to those who
24 pontificate has lost.

25 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you. We will

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2 now add Jasmine Bobis followed by Claudia Borecky.

3 Is Jasmine Bobis here?

4 [THERE WAS NO RESPONSE]

5 Okay. Claudia Borecky, are you here? After that
6 we'll have Gail Stackman.

7 MS. BORECKY: I'm Claudia Borecky.

8 I'm here speaking on behalf of the Coalition of
9 Nassau Civic Associations. Our coalition is
10 comprised of civic associations from all over
11 Nassau County, representing hundreds of thousands
12 of Nassau County residents. We come here today
13 to express our strong opposition to the proposed
14 energy terminal just 19 miles off our shores.

15 We oppose this project for several reasons.
16 Long Island is our home. We live, we work, we
17 play here. We raise our families here. We enjoy
18 our beaches and our house, Long Island's greatest
19 asset. We do not want to see the industrialization
20 of our ocean. Instead of ugly oil fields off our
21 beaches, you're trying to disguise this monster by
22 submerging it under water.

23 These tankers will be carrying the LNG to
24 our shores that are nearly a fifth of a mile in
25 length. What you're really doing is setting up

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2 a fossil fuel plant off our shores. You're right
3 in the path of a hurricane. It's unconscionable
4 that Liberty is contemplating placing a highly
5 explosive fossil fuel plant along a shore that is
6 vulnerable to extreme weather, shores that are
7 still recovering from Superstorm Sandy.

8 Another major concern that we have is the
9 industry's trend to open it as an import facility
10 and then turn around and begin exporting our
11 domestic natural gas. It bothers us that changing
12 from import terminal to export terminal needs
13 nothing more than a letter of approval.

14 It bothers us that the United States admitted
15 to exporting 40% of its natural gas. It bothers
16 us that the United States is not limiting its
17 exportation of natural gas but seems to be
18 heading in the opposite direction. Quickly, we're
19 becoming the Saudi Arabia of natural gas.

20 The only ones that will benefit from natural
21 gas exportation will be the foreign conglomerates
22 who will come here, grab our resources right out
23 of our ground, and ship them overseas where they
24 can sell them at a profit, and deplete our own
25 supply of natural gas in process.

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2 We all know that hydro-fracking is the
3 cheapest and quickest ways for these foreign
4 companies to get to our natural gas. Doesn't
5 it all make sense now. With hydro-fracking on
6 the horizon wouldn't these foreign companies
7 need a port to export the natural gas? Placing
8 an explosive fossil fuel plant 19 miles off our
9 shores, in the path of extreme storms is not in
10 the best interest of Long Island. We can not
11 afford another catastrophe.

12 The Coalition of the Civic Association
13 opposes Liberty's LNG project and requests that
14 the public comment period be extended for 120
15 days. We are extremely uncomfortable with
16 the industry trends and trends to export. We
17 need more time to digest just what this will mean
18 for Long Island. We request that a series of
19 hearings be conducted so that we can not only
20 voice our concerns but feel confident that our
21 concerns will be addressed.

22 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you Ms. Borecky.

23 MS. BORECKY: There is a saying that
24 says it best. Every generation, you must consider
25 the impact on the next seven generations. Thank

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2 you.

3 MS. GOLDHAMMER: We'll next hear from
4 Gail Stackman followed by Mary Anne Sullivan.

5 MS. STACKMAN: First let me say that I am
6 extremely opposed to this. I'm very into saving,
7 not just the climate but the planet. There are
8 a few things that I did not hear mentioned.

9 One, was if they were to decide to do this,
10 what kind of interval shut offs would there be in
11 the pipeline so that there couldn't be the extreme
12 that happened with BP in the Gulf. Also, what
13 kind of inspection would there be? What's the
14 time frame for the inspections? Also, who is
15 making money on this project and how much do
16 they intend to make? What would be the liability,
17 you know, just throw away a community?

18 Who has the final say on this? Is there
19 going to be a vote. I remember the vote that was
20 snuck in the middle of the summer about the Nassau
21 Colosseum. We did didn't have any preparation
22 for it, and they tried to railroad it through,
23 which is what I feel is what happening with this.
24 You are not considering the birds and the fish,
25 aside from the people. In advertising I learned

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2 one thing, the bigger the lie, the bigger the buy.
3 We're not buying.

4 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you Ms. Stackman.
5 We will now hear from Mary Anne Sullivan followed
6 by James Donofrio.

7 MS. SULLIVAN: Mary Anne Sullivan.
8 Researcher and a member of the Committee on
9 Energy, Agriculture, Environment and New York
10 State Legal Voters. I testify here
11 today on my own behalf.

12 The Port Ambrose LNG application is the same
13 one turned down by Governor Christie. It is an
14 application that must be considered as an export
15 as well as import due to the Deepwater Act of
16 2013, where all import and export applications are
17 considered both. An export LNG port is likely to
18 further incentivize the acceleration of natural
19 gas exploration in Marcellus Shale.

20 Industrializing will contribute both
21 further contribute to warming and pollution of the
22 air, water and land. Currently the public comment
23 period ends August 23rd. The public needs to be
24 informed about this project, with an application
25 in excess of 1,500 pages, the public needs at

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2 least 120 days to seriously analyze this
3 application and its implications, and an
4 opportunity for more hearings and maybe perhaps
5 in New York City.

6 Some important considerations include
7 justification of the present and projected
8 regional needs to import natural gas.
9 The safety of an LNG port situated in the middle
10 of existing shipping lines, in consideration of
11 32 foot waves from Sandy. We need long term
12 economic benefits for New York and New Jersey,
13 associated with the import application, including
14 local jobs and income related business and tax
15 revenue.

16 The disruption of shipping, commerce and
17 fishing while these huge LNG ships and vessels are
18 under way, turning in and out of shipping lines.
19 Exclusion of fishing is all around the port.
20 Projected measurement of the additional greenhouse
21 gas emissions, which would be released in the
22 air during the operations, construction and
23 decommission, and potential impacts on climate
24 and water patterns, and efforts to minimize.
25 The importance of minimization and mitigation

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1
2 measures to ensure impacts on the environment
3 from construction of a 22 mile pipeline and water,
4 vessel water and discharge of treated water during
5 operations. have been avoided or minimized to the
6 greatest extent possible.

7 We need a fisheries detailed watering plan,
8 threat to endangered species. such as specific
9 whales, seals, sea turtles and fish need to be
10 considered and the protections provided. How
11 about safety measures to eliminate risks of
12 collision by LNG, wind turbines from an expansive
13 wind power project operating in the same area.
14 That project was proposed a long time ago.
15 The public needs at least 120 days for this
16 LNG import and export application.

17 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Ms. Sullivan.
18 We now have James Denofrio followed by Wendy
19 Scher.

20 MR. DONOFRIO: Thank you. Jim Donofrio,
21 Executive Director Recreational Fish Alliance, for
22 National. We're a 501C4 political action
23 organization. Our mission statement is to protect
24 the lives of water anglers, support the
25 sustainable fisheries, maintain and protect the

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2 jobs and marine related issues. With that being
3 said, our concern with the project is based on
4 mission statement only.

5 We don't get into commodity trade or any of
6 that. That's not our deal. Our deal is the ocean
7 impact on our anglers resources. I want to thank
8 you for extending the comment period but I agree
9 that it should be longer. What we're finding is
10 that our anglers, our fishing groups, our
11 fishermen are really not informed about this
12 project. I think that has a lot to

13 do with Sandy. We lost, I can't tell you how
14 many tackle stores that toppled over into the bay
15 at different areas between Long Island and New
16 Jersey. So, there's a lot of devastation. I

17 think
18 we need time to sort this out. I believe there's
19 a long rigorous process that we're going to go
20 through; the Environmental Impact Statement, MARAD
21 Coast Guard and we're asking lots of questions.

22 We want to know where the pipeline is going,
23 what kind of effects it's going to have on our
24 resources and on our fishermen. All of that
25 will be answered through that process but I

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2 think we have to extend the period so that we
3 can educate the anglers, our fishing community,
4 on facts not fiction. Thank you very much.

5 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Mr. Donofrio.
6 Wendy Scher followed by Scott Reeves.

7 MS. SCHER: Hello. My name is Wendy
8 Scher. I come from many organizations but
9 especially including one called Trade Justice in
10 NY Metro, which fights international Trade
11 Agreements from destroying our autonomy as well
12 as our environment and our basic rights.

13 So, on that note I'm really, really impressed
14 by the amount of points here that so many have
15 already covered, and the voices that are coming in
16 right now. We can't even emphasis enough that
17 there is something basically wrong with relying
18 on shipments full of explosives for, like, chilled
19 liquid, and relying on that as our fuel essential
20 to our economy. We're relying on things that are
21 explosive. We shouldn't have stoves that are
22 explosive for that matter.

23 We have to totally start rethinking that.
24 Us, around here, seem to be opposed to any kind
25 of addition to that infrastructure. That's the

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2 basic concept here. We don't want an addition of
3 this kind of energy coming in. It's that simple.
4 This is a project that would take ocean water and
5 fill it up and fill it in the tanks are empty.
6 Every use that comes in there, it's not going to
7 survive being put into a tank and being expelled
8 again. It's slowly killing the ocean. I'm sure
9 that is part of the Environmental Impact that
10 you'll be looking at during this whole process.
11 That's just one example of how any of these
12 mega products can be. The reason that we're
13 seeing this come back, coming back to the Liberty
14 project, the reason why it's so easy for them
15 to bounce right back in, and say here's
16 a professional company and proposing a safe
17 guard. This is where all of the capital for
18 this kind of project can be concentrated into
19 energy that can be owned, that can drilled by
20 not just anybody, but by the wealthiest companies
21 that there are. You can't do that with
22 solar or wind. Anybody can collect it.
23 That's the big discussion we have to have.
24 Our economy is not going to be democratic. It's
25 not going to be validation in any way as long as

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2 energy is so centralized.

3 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Ms. Scher.
4 Next is Scott Reeves followed by Mercedes Schmidt.

5 MR. WINTER: Actually I'm not Scott
6 Reeves. He's in my union. His stomach is upset
7 so if you don't mind I'm taking his place. My
8 name is Scott Winter and I'm further on down the
9 list if you just want to block me off.

10 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Okay.

11 MR. WINTER: Hello again. Thank you for
12 very much for letting me speak here today. I'm
13 Scott Winter. I'm the President and Business
14 Manager of the Operating Engineer, Local 25
15 Marine Division. My local union does all
16 the dredging from Maine all the way to Texas,
17 including the beach replenishment that you guys
18 so much enjoy.

19 Also, we do the off shore cable and pipeline
20 crossing. On behalf of the project owner, and
21 myself, I would like to show my support for this
22 project. I know that must make me rather
23 unpopular in this room, since I'm the
24 only one standing up in support of this project.

25 What I'm trying to do here today is try to

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2 dispel some of the myths about this project.

3 I'm here to speak about the job creation of this
4 project and also to refute the propaganda that
5 was spread around about this plan.

6 A statement to the public by Clean Ocean
7 Action presented to the public in which they refer
8 to as a fact sheet, however, their statement
9 contains virtually no facts, but instead
10 propaganda, in which is used to misinform and
11 thus mislead the public in order to sway their
12 opinion on the real facts of this project.

13 Clean Ocean Action so-called fact sheet
14 also states that the energy port will also be
15 used for importing and exporting of natural gas.
16 Yet, another misconception regarding this project.
17 Thank you.

18 MS. GOLDHAMMER: The speaker gets a
19 chance. Hold the comments.

20 MR. WINTER: Guys, I know I'm the
21 unpopular guy in the room but I don't mind.
22 You've got to let me speak and I'll explain it
23 to you. Always here two sides of the story.

24 In fact this project, and you should know
25 this by now, is only permitted for import. It's

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2 not permitted for export. There will be no
3 exportation of natural gas from this pipeline
4 facility. That is a fact.

5 Clean Ocean Action in a the statement eludes
6 to the project being in the middle of a proposed
7 off-shore wind area, like this project is going to
8 somehow

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're a union member,

10 MS. GOLDHAMMER: You were allowed your
11 time to speak. Hello, this is this person's time
12 to speak. Everyone hold our comments and let this
13 person speak.

14 MR. WINTER: You have to allot me more
15 time to speak please. Clean Ocean alludes to
16 the project being in the middle in a proposed
17 off-shore wind area. Like this project is somehow
18 going to impeded off-shore wind development.

19 My union will be providing much of the
20 labor resources for the off-shore wind industry.
21 I've been the leading organized advocate for the
22 off-shore wind industry and I've been intimately
23 involved with that off-shore wind project from
24 its infancy stages.

25 Therefore, I can inform you with all certainty

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2 that this project will not impede the off-shore
3 wind development.

4 MS. GOLDHAMMER: You have 30 seconds
5 left, sir.

6 MR. WINTER: You're not interested in
7 hearing any opposition?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

9 MS. GOLDHAMMER: I gave you 3 minutes and
10 I gave you 30 seconds for the disruption.

11 MR. WINTER: Do you want me to continue or
12 not?

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

14 MR. WINTER: So you guys want to hear
15 only one side of the story and not the
16 other.

17 I'm leaving the microphone, but I want to say that
18 the real democracy that we live in, what I fought
19 for in several wars, in real democracy you hear
20 both sides of the story.

21 MS. GOLDHAMMER: I just want to
22 reiterate that. Our next speaker is Mercedes
23 Schmidt. Hello. Everybody hold it. Hold it
24 please. Everyone is getting a chance to speak.
25 We've heard from one side. When someone is

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2 speaking for another side, let's listen
3 respectfully to them too.

4 Now, we're going to have Mercedes Schmidt
5 followed by Doug Kramer.

6 MS. SCHMIDT: I'm Mercedes Schmidt.
7 I'm a resident of Long Beach. I share the
8 concerns, environmental, safety and security
9 of this project. Most importantly, I've tried
10 researching on the web, Liberty Natural Gas, LLC.
11 I find basically nothing on it, except a blurb
12 that it's a subsidiary of some resources, who also
13 doesn't show much on the web, and doesn't show any
14 LNG connection whatsoever. Only oil and the
15 fracking and the shaling and sand oil in Canada.
16 It's located in Calgary but I don't see any
17 connections in any resource in LNG any way.

18 So, my concern is why are they doing it?
19 Who are they. I have not seen anything. This
20 is a company's total extent of the website.
21 We're talking here investingBusinessweek.com.
22 Recent company transactions have no transactions
23 available in the past 12 months.

24 So, are we going to be a guinea pig? Please be
25 a little bit more transparent and give a lot more

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2 time.

3 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Ms. Schmidt.
4 Our next speaker is Doug Kramer followed by Peter
5 Gollon. Is Doug Kramer here?

6 [THERE WAS NO RESPONSE]

7 Okay. Peter Gollon please? Are you here? Thank
8 you.

9 MR. GOLLON: Good evening. My name is
10 Peter Gollon. I'm the energy chair of the Long
11 Island Sera Club. The National Sera Club
12 is the country's oldest and largest grassroots
13 organization. I came here to voice an opinion and
14 also to note, that on that basis I'm embarrassed
15 that many people who probably share my opinion
16 would interrupt the speaker with another opinion
17 and prevent me from learning something from him.

18 First, I appreciate the 30 day extension of
19 the comment period but it is clearly inadequate
20 and I respectfully request that we extend it
21 to 120 days. It's really absurd to expect a
22 detailed proposal to get thoughtful, science-based
23 comments in such a short period.

24 Secondly, the scope of the analysis must
25 address the need for natural gas in this area.

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or the need for any other fossil fuel for that matter. Both President Obama and Governor Cuomo have spoken in favor of a rapid transition to renewable energy, such as that from solar and wind.

The need for such a transition is supported by world wide scientific evidence, and if you need facts on the ground, just look around to see the effects of enhanced climate disruption caused by fossil fuels. The environmental impact must consider that this project will facilitate additional consumption of fossil fuels. It's especially true when such fossil fuels, as liquefied natural gas, has a large carbon impact, because it's not just that the gas was piped within a 100 miles or 300 miles from some fracking site, somewhere to the left of us. It was chilled, which consumes energy. It was transported here, which consumes energy. It's gasified, which consumes additional energy. So, another far greater impact than locally produced natural gas, which itself is not so great.

Why then build a facility here except to

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2 perhaps to export it. Such a facility would
3 impede rather than facilitate transition to a
4 newer branch. I hope that Mr. Cuomo has the
5 courage to follow his neighbor, Governor Christie
6 in opposing this. His actions need to follow his
7 words. Thank you.

8 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you Mr. Gollon.
9 Mr. Bachman wants to say something please.

10 MR. BACHMAN: Yes, we were going to
11 shut down at 8:00, which was the scheduled time
12 but we got a little late start. Since we still
13 have quite a few speakers we're going to go until
14 8:30. So, please keep it to three minutes.
15 Hold the applause and things.

16 If anybody has got their statement written
17 out, if they could just submit to the reporter,
18 that would be included with the transcript.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's too hot in here.

20 MR. BACHMAN: The outbursts and things,
21 please, we're trying to get everybody in.
22 So, if you have a written statement, submit it
23 to the reporter. It's late so try and help out.
24 We'll continue on until 8:30 tonight.

25 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Mr. Bachman,

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2 we'll now have Diane Antman followed by Crystal
3 Lake.

4 MS. ANTMAN: My name is Diane Antman.
5 I am a long time resident of Long Beach. Since
6 time is of the essence, I'm not going to
7 go over all of the other points, numerous
8 and wonderful points that previous speakers
9 have made. I would like to speak a little bit on
10 personal experiences and concerns.

11 Maybe someone in this room has seen what
12 a gas explosion can do. I have personally,
13 and specifically tomorrow there's going to be
14 a meeting in Edison, New Jersey. Actually, that's
15 where I'm originally from, the next town.

16 When I was a youngster there was a barge
17 loading for Korea, and an accident occurred, an
18 explosion. Now, it wasn't natural gas, but the
19 explosion would be similar with natural gas,
20 should it occur. Every window in the Town of
21 Amboy, which is on the right river and adjacent to
22 Edison, New Jersey, was blown out. I heard this
23 explosion in Matouches, which was 5 to 7 miles
24 away. I actually did a benefit concert at that
25 time, at Clara Barton School, to help the people

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2 of that town put windows in all of their
3 businesses.

4 So, very young I saw what a gas explosion
5 can do. I studied chemistry. I worked in Edison
6 at Minerals and Chemicals Industries before I
7 came to New York and worked for Trans World
8 Airlines. I would like to make the observation
9 or the thought of what would happen if we had
10 an aircraft that should hit that terminal
11 while it is unloading. After all, a TWA flight
12 went down there.

13 The other thing that I would like to mention
14 quickly is that the gas line is just a few
15 blocks from here, under the soil and shallow gas
16 and it goes up Long Beach Road. That is where
17 this natural gas is going to come, after being
18 loaded in the terminal.

19 We can't handle fire on this island, according
20 to the former police chief, we do not have the
21 capability. I attended a meeting of the
22 Harborites Association while being a
23 representative. We would have to fly in,
24 by helicopter or by land at a distance, to
25 bring in the proper people. You can't do that

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1
2 in a hurricane. I was here in the midst of
3 a hurricane. I can tell you very personally that
4 we were very ill-prepared, and this is not going
5 to happen. We'll have another Breezy Point here
6 if that should occur. Thank you very much.

7 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you. Next we
8 have Crystal Lake followed by Cynthia Kouril.

9 MS. KOURIL: Good evening, ladies and
10 gentlemen. I've been a resident of the City of
11 Long Beach for 50 years. My concern is the tie,
12 which ties into the Trans-continental gas
13 pipeline, which does go down Long Beach Road, and
14 veers back over to the channel, which is a
15 Federal Navigational Channel. Keep in mind that
16 the metering station is there, along with 3 gas
17 heaters. This is behind us. I also believe that
18 I read a report prepared by Tetra, it pertained
19 National Grid and former MGP site, section block
20 and lot 59.2-4, which is part of that entity.
21 Along Queensboro, formally known as Queensboro Gas
22 and Electric, section block and lot 59.79.103.
23 So, this is also includes the underground piping.
24 This is what is behind us, ladies and gentlemen.
25 So, that tie-in and to have to type of

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2 facility on the opposite side would be horrendous.

3 Sea level rise, climate change, storms surge,

4 More people should be reading the New York Sea

5 Level Rise 2010 that went to the Legislature

6 that does show the projections and how greatly

7 we are affected by sea level rise.

8 Also, in the area of the metering station, is

9 an environmental justice area, which is protected

10 by Presidential Executive Order, which runs

11 12898, Environmental Justice.

12 Also, the Environmental Justice Memoranda

13 understands, which is signed into law about

14 August 4, 2011 by our current President Obama.

15 So, at the City of Long Beach, as residents,

16 we have endured enough. The magnitude of what

17 is behind us is astronomical. Now, the potential

18 for something in front of us, with even far

19 greater devastation that can occur, is

20 unconscionable.

21 So, I ask you, ladies and gentlemen, hear our

22 cries, hear our needs. This is not needed here.

23 We are a beach community we're a proud community.

24 and we're a loving community, and we're in

25 survival mode. So, please, down with the project.

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2 Thank you.

3 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you Crystal Lake.
4 Cynthia Kouril followed by Craig Stevens.

5 MS. KOURIL: Hi, my name is Cynthia
6 Kouril. I'm an attorney. Early in my career,
7 I was counsel to the Inspector General, for the
8 New York City Department of Environmental
9 Protection. I was then cross-designated to the
10 United States Attorney's Office for the Southern
11 District of New York, where we brought cases
12 involving environmental crimes, as well as crimes
13 committed by people under our jurisdiction.

14 If you remember years ago when the medical
15 waste washed up on the beach, we solved that and
16 put those people in jail and took a 30 million
17 dollar forfeiture from them.

18 Several years ago, there was a similar
19 proposal for the Broadwater Project, and the
20 Suffolk County Legislature was looking into
21 bringing independent litigation to stop that
22 project. They asked my law firm, and me
23 specifically, to put together a proposal for
24 how we would attack that project in litigation.

25 I apologize because I'm working from

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2 memory because I had very short notice of this
3 meeting, and I didn't have a chance to get
4 out my six Banker's Boxes of research. One of
5 the things that I recall from that research
6 was that the studies relating to is leakage
7 of liquid natural gas, and was only based on
8 very small leaks, pinhole leaks, leaks the
9 diameter of a pencil, leaks up to an inch.
10 No meaningful studies have ever been done about
11 large breaches in the hull, of the chamber that
12 holds the gas.

13 I do know, because a friend of mine once
14 worked on an LNG tanker, that they are trained,
15 they are certified to work on that to believe that
16 if a tanker were to explode it would knock the
17 earth out of its orbit. I don't know if that's
18 true or not but I just know that is the training
19 that he received because I read his text book.
20 My objection to this project is the same as
21 my objection to Broadwater. You do not put
22 something that dangerous, that explosive, next to
23 one of the largest population centers in the
24 world, and a population center that is both a well
25 known target of terrorist attacks, the financial

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2 center of the world and therefore the first place
3 that someone is going to want to hit as an act of
4 war, and then the path of hurricanes. This is
5 ludicrous. This project should fail in the
6 earliest possible stage of this application
7 process, because the flaws in it are so self
8 evident.

9 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you Ms. Kouril,
10 We'll now hear from Craig Stevens followed
11 by Jessica Roff.

12 MR. STEVENS: Good evening, folks.
13 Craig Stevens, Pennsylvania. Let me show
14 you what happens to well water all over the
15 country when fracking happens. That's not
16 just one. This is a list of over 2,000 people
17 from all over the United States from 40 different
18 states that have had contamination issues over
19 the last 20 years.

20 I find it very funny when we stand here,
21 and everytime I go to meetings, and I go to a lot
22 of them, I'm from Oswego, New York. I'm a fifth
23 generation New Yorker also. So, I'm here to talk
24 to you as an ancestral person from both states.

25 The guy that stood up here earlier,

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2 Mr. Winter, I will challenge you any day of the
3 year and I have \$500 in my pocket to back it up.
4 There is no way in hell that they are going to
5 be importing any gas. There was a Wall Street
6 Journal, just a week and a half ago, natural
7 gas drops on new signs of fallen demand. There
8 is no demand for importing. They are lying to
9 you and they wouldn't spend one dollar to do it.
10 How do I know this? North Dakota, they're burning
11 all of the gas in North Dakota. They do not
12 capture one bit of it because nobody will invest
13 in a pipeline, not one bit. Trillions of cubic
14 feet a day are being burned off. You can
15 see it from space. They're not going to import
16 gas from Trinidad.

17 So, let me tell you about the lies that
18 happen. This is the Constitution Pipeline, which
19 also connects to the Airco Pipeline. That comes
20 right here to this island. The Airco Pipeline
21 connects to the Transco, also owned by
22 Williams.

23 Williams, on May 17th presented
24 to all of us, and by the way they wanted
25 to Eminent Domain and steal our property

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2 from us. They like to use that a lot too.
3 They will use that here also. On the second
4 page the project provides a new opportunity to
5 deliver gas supply to northeast markets through
6 inter-connects with existing Airco and Tennessee
7 gas pipeline systems. Liars.

8 Here's 4 days later, their own document. It
9 says, key points, LNG Exports is number 4.
10 My dad died in our ancestral home April 30, 2007.
11 I didn't know about fracking but he did. He said
12 these guys lie for a living. First thing they'll
13 do is buy off all of the politicians. Read that
14 document, it's fracking and the revolving door in
15 Pennsylvania. All of our 5 former Governors are
16 working for the industry, some of them are EVP.

17 Here's my issues. There's a better way folks.
18 Here's the 2030 energy plan from Dr. Jacobson,
19 Dr. Graffia and Dr. Howard. Build a wind farm.
20 Do you know what happens if we buy into it? If a
21 hurricane happens, you're not going to need power
22 or not going to need gas. Putting gas aside, that
23 wind farm can provide the energy to rebuild this
24 community, today right now. The day the wind
25 stops blowing and the sun stops coming up, we

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2 won't have to worry about an LNG import or export
3 facility. Thank you very much.

4 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you. We'll hear
5 from Jessica Roff followed by Captain Donald
6 Papella.

7 MS. ROFF: My name is Jessica Roff.
8 I'm a fourth generation Brooklynite. I'm going
9 to talk real fast because I've got a lot to
10 say. I have been doing Sandy relief work,
11 after doing years of activism. I've been in
12 the Rockaways since November 1st.

13 As we all know all of these areas have been
14 devastated by Hurricane Sandy. Investing in
15 extreme and dangerous energy, which leads to
16 climate change causes storms like Sandy to happen.
17 It makes them worse every single time. It's
18 literally the definition of insanity. If you do
19 the same thing over again and expect a different
20 result you are insane.

21 Therefore, what we should be doing is actually
22 building infrastructure on moving forward.
23 If we rebuild our previous infrastructure you're
24 going to keep using it. You don't throw out
25 imports, oh yes, imports. No, they're going to

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2 do exports. If you invest billions of dollars in
3 infrastructure you plan to use it, which is why
4 this is not a transition and not investing in the
5 future. This is straight energy, which is a
6 problem. It will also push for fracking. We all
7 know it's going to destroy our water, our food,
8 our land, and air and causes all of these problems
9 where you can't do anything with energy anyway.
10 We need to have a different system because
11 protections don't work, as you can see from
12 Craig's water. This industry is the worst
13 regulated and we can't get them to do anything any
14 way.

15 Look at what's happening with BP and this
16 case the money is actually in the Cayman Islands.
17 What are we going to do when we can't actually
18 follow the chain of where the money is? Who is
19 responsible? That, we're just asking for trouble.
20 I was told earlier that there's a safeguard,
21 there was a gentleman who walked out and didn't
22 want to hear the rest of the supporters. I heard
23 him say that it's safe because if there's a leak,
24 it's just a gas that will seep and go up into the
25 air. It's not like an oil leak. Have you heard

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1
2 of methane? That's one of the most disruptive
3 gases on the planet. Greenhouse gas emission is
4 just going to add to the problems.

5 Okay, so, those numbers that their talking
6 about and jobs, jobs and jobs. We all know 6
7 jobs. They're all crap and they all lie and never
8 true.

9 You want good jobs, you bring them in,
10 you bring in wind, solar and thermal, because
11 those are best for our future. Those are the
12 alternatives that Tetra Tech needs to be looking
13 at and not if we did a pipe this way or that way.
14 It's ridiculous. That is an alternative and that
15 is on our future. This is what we need to be
16 doing when rebuilding Sandy, instead of
17 making our system worse and worse.

18 As you've heard, Governor Christie already
19 vetoed this project, right. Since when did
20 New York become the dumping ground for New Jersey.
21 Give me a break. Come on. I want everyone to
22 take out your phone right now. Let me give you a
23 phone number. This is Governor Cuomo's phone.
24 Call Governor Cuomo and tell you that you don't
25 want this project. Phone number 518-474-8390.

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2 Tell him that what is not good for New Jersey is
3 definitely not good for New York.

4 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you. We'll next
5 hear from Captain Donald Popella followed by
6 Roger Clayman.

7 MR. POPELLA: Hello. My name is Captain
8 Donald Popella. I'm one of the founding member of
9 the newly formed Bay Shepherds Maritime
10 Preservation Group. Besides the very real and
11 worrying environmental questions, and the impacts
12 that this project immediately presents locally,
13 the possibility that Liberty's Port Ambrose
14 Project could evolve into a deportation facility
15 is even more alarming. More people in more
16 non-local areas, that aren't even aware of this,
17 could be adversely effected if this project is
18 approved. That's not fair. Not only the local
19 people here are effected by this project, and how
20 you were trying to slide through the door with
21 such haste and such refuge.

22 I am proud to say that I have lived, worked
23 and enjoyed my life on the water as a Captain
24 and then a commercial fisherman and clammer.
25 I know and have witnessed the fragility of the

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2 environment just with natural problems and
3 disasters, let alone this enormous man made
4 project using an antiquated source of energy.

5 Just so that you know, I've been a sailor
6 and a surfer for 50 years, using wind and waves
7 to provide natural powers and primary source
8 for transportation and enjoyment, and I'm
9 damn proud of it.

10 I don't think that the PWC jet skiers or the
11 go fast fuel burning monsters that thunder through
12 our waterways can say the same thing. We had
13 a saying back in the old days that's even more
14 important today. Be a good steward to your
15 environment and leave it better than you found it.
16 I think that applies here. Just a side note, I
17 want to let you know that the members of the Union
18 are very busy, not in the room anymore, but very
19 busy holding the bar up out there. Thank you
20 very much.

21 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Okay. Roger Clayman
22 followed by Elliot Figman.

23 MR. CLAYMAN: Here's a member of the
24 Union still in the room. My name is Roger Clayman,
25 I'm Executor Director of Long Island Federation

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2 of Labor. We represent 250,000 union members and
3 their families living on Long Island. The highest
4 priority of our Federation is the creation of
5 jobs. The projects generate positive benefits
6 for our communities. We believe the Port Ambrose
7 Deepwater Port Project is viable for Long Island
8 working families and an economic benefit to our
9 region.

10 The Port Ambrose Project will create
11 over 600 good paying construction jobs at a
12 time when jobs are very much needed on Long
13 Island. We believe these jobs will be union jobs,
14 which means the positive impact of good wages
15 and benefits we return to our communities.

16 Providing additional sources of energy for
17 Long Island is critical for economic growth and
18 jobs opportunities today and for future
19 generations of working families. That's why we,
20 like our Brother's in Local 25, also believe in
21 renewable energy, and have worked hard and lobbied
22 for wind energy in the same area.

23 This project brings a clean source of
24 energy to Long Island and helps reduce energy
25 costs. It reduce energy costs to New York

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1
2 consumers but up to \$325 million dollars annually.
3 Our Federation has a responsibility to represent
4 the many concerns of our members and the concerns
5 that they have day to day as consumers.

6 This project is about providing good jobs,
7 providing a clean source of energy and helping
8 everyone pay the utility bills. It strikes the
9 right balance and helps meet our energy needs.
10 Thank you.

11 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Next is Elliot Figman
12 followed by Catherine Skopic.

13 MR. FIGMAN: I'm Elliot Figman. I'm
14 with the same energy project. We witnessed a
15 critical climate change milestone. We're now past
16 400 parts per million carbon dioxide in our
17 atmosphere.

18 The science tells us that in order to
19 maintain a stable climate we need to reduce
20 the concentration of CO2 to no more than 350
21 parts per million. Doing the infrastructure
22 like the Port Ambrose facility, which will lock
23 us in to the use of fossil fuel for decades, when
24 we should be embracing clean, renewable energy, is
25 nothing short of insane.

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1 I once worked in Massachusetts, and taught
2 in a small town in Massachusetts. I taught
3 English there. There was another teacher there,
4 Bernie Summers, and he was a very popular math
5 teacher. He was married to a woman and the woman,
6 they had 3 daughters that adored him. Great guy
7 but the only problem is that he smoked 2 packs
8 of cigarettes a day. At age 45 he had a heart
9 attack and his doctor was blunt, cut out the
10 smoking or you're going to die a young man, but
11 he didn't stop. He kept right on smoking and
12 a year later he suffered the second heart attack
13 and died.

15 Our planet is very similar. We human beings
16 are smoking 2 packs a day. Our smoking consists
17 of burning fossil fuels and continuing to spew

18 CO2,

19 methane and other heat traveling gases into the
20 atmosphere. In our world and Bernie's heart

21 attack

22 and the violent storms like Sandy, raging bonfires
23 that just killed 19 young fire fighters in

24 Arizona,

25 and the one in a hundred year floods that killed

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2 10,000 people in India. These warnings, just like
3 Bernie's heart attack, are obvious.

4 The scientists, just like Bernie's doctor,
5 were clear. Stop pouring CO2, methane and other
6 heat trapping gases into the atmosphere or we're
7 doomed.

8 Will stopping this project solve the problem?
9 No, that won't do. You don't get to decide if
10 the Keystone XL pipeline will forward. You don't
11 get to decide whether coal will be shipped
12 from the west coast ports to Asia. You do have a
13 wonderful and important responsibility, you do
14 get to decide whether this LNG Port is built.
15 For the sake of our planet, for the sake of our
16 kids, do the right thing and deny the application
17 and still consider it a dangerous project.

18 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Next we have Catherine
19 Skopic followed by Stephen Edmondson. I just want
20 to say that we only have the room for 15 more
21 minutes and we have 36 speakers still.
22 So, if you have to say has already been said
23 maybe you can defer to the next person. Thank
24 you.

25 MS. SKOPIC: There is no Planet B, not

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2 in the immediate vicinity anyway. For those of
3 us here now, it is our responsibility to care
4 for this planet and to give it to our children
5 and all future generations in a better shape than
6 we found it. For us, that means eliminating the
7 prehistoric use of fossil fuels and transitioning
8 to renewables.

9 My name is Catherine Skopic and I'm speaking
10 as a citizen, mother, as an educator and
11 environmentalist. I have worked with many groups,
12 both sacred and secular. I've worked with the
13 Coalition of New Yorkers against Fracking and Food
14 and Water Wells amongst many others.

15 Just for interest sake, show your hands if you
16 are against this project. There you have it.
17 That's pretty effective. As has been mentioned,
18 there is a plan for all of New York State, in
19 addition to the wind farm, for all of New York
20 State to be renewable by 2030. This is done by
21 Marc Jacobson from Stamford University along with
22 Robert Howard and Anthony Graffia of Cornell
23 University. Please look at that. It is possible.
24 We don't need this.

25 Also, I would like to point out if you are

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2 really interested in the truth about the economics
3 of the fossil fuel industry Google Jeanette Barth.
4 She's done extensive studies. So, with all good
5 intentions the fossil fuel companies don't mean to
6 have accidents but they do. There's no safe way.
7 We had BP. Look at what has happened in Canada.
8 We have pipelines criss-crossing our country.
9 It's time to take it back. This is our country
10 and we do not want fossil fuels. We want a clean
11 earth to give to our children. Thank you.

12 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you. Next is
13 Stephen Dickenson followed Anthony Gasiewski.
14 Stephen Dickenson?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's Edmondson.

16 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Edmondson, thank you.

17 MR. EDMONDSON: Steve Edmondson, on the
18 Board of Directors for the Oceanside Civic
19 Association, which is a lovely city that has a
20 brown field in it from Gulf Oil, and also on an
21 emergency response team which responded to the
22 disaster in Long Beach. I'm also a friend
23 with the Coast Guard and I didn't hear no plan
24 because they closed the Coast Guard in Atlantic
25 Beach. They have a skeleton crew at Point Look

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2 Out in Fire Island.

3 So, if this thing blows what is your plan? I
4 just talked to the Fire Marshall out there and he
5 told me, no comment. So, I want to know who is
6 going to respond to a disaster out there? I don't
7 think Long Beach has a fire boat because they
8 don't even have a hospital anymore.

9 So, we're taking patients from Long Beach
10 to Oceanside because the hospital is closed and
11 no one has decided whether they're going to open
12 the hospital, close the hospital, demolish the
13 hospital. What are they going to do with the
14 hospital?

15 How about at this meeting tonight. David
16 Denenberg, who is not even my County Legislator,
17 but I'd love to know where Denise is and I don't
18 know if she is a democrat or republican this week,
19 and they changed the district. We don't even
20 know where Copel is or any of the 3 men that are
21 running for County Executive tonight. Thank you.

22 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Anthony Gasiewski
23 followed by Tina Posteru.

24 MR. GASIEWSKI: My name is Anthony
25 Gasiewski. I'm with the Operating Engineer,

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2 Local 25. We do work all over the world.
3 Right here, I sit here and listen to all
4 of these people. I am from Jersey. Believe
5 it fellows but you did not get hurt that bad
6 like we did in Jersey. You guys cry for sand
7 and cry for work.

8 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Listen to the speaker.

9 MR. GASIEWSKI: It's not just you guys,
10 it's everybody got hurt. I'm speaking and I hear
11 everybody talking. People all want jobs.
12 This is what it's all about, jobs.

13 We're here to talk about LNG and what safety
14 do we have -- I take my hat off to these people. I
15 got 38 years in this business. I'm the third
16 generation of Local 25. My grandfather worked
17 with
18 these people and the Coast Guard. That's the
19 protection right there fellas. I say I support
20 the LNG. Yes.

21 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you. Tina Posteru
22 followed by Daniel Engel.

23 MS. POSTERU: The fact that time ran
24 out with 36 more speakers to go really says it
25 all. I'm here tonight to speak on my own behalf

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2 as a resident of Long Beach, as well as express
3 concerns on behalf of Riverkeeper, the
4 organization that I work for.

5 I moved to this community because of the
6 water. Right now we have a bay that is in
7 serious trouble due to sewage discharge and
8 toxic spills from Sandy. I don't want to see
9 the integrity of our ocean and environment
10 compromised by an extremely volatile project
11 that won't even go toward the economic benefit
12 of our community or State for that matter.
13 As many people have said here tonight, that
14 benefits from Port Ambrose will be overseas energy
15 markets that would benefit from them a new access
16 point from US natural gas exports.

17 My 12 year old daughter and her friends
18 are junior lifeguards and surfers, and they are
19 in our ocean everyday. I don't want them
20 subjected to the 3.5 million gallons of chemically
21 treated sea water used for pipe tests and worse.

22 Port Ambrose will effect all clean ocean
23 uses and is in a pathway to hurricanes, which
24 we know first-hand are increasing in intensity.
25 As you can all see sitting here, you are right

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2 in the middle of a community that hasn't even
3 recovered yet from the impacts of the last one.
4 Anything on top of this would be total
5 devastation.

6 On behalf of Riverkeeper, we're concerned
7 about this port's potential to lead to more
8 fracking in the northeast and about the risks
9 it poses to the safety of the people living along
10 coastal areas and to the marine life.
11 We're joining in the call to extend the public
12 comment period by at least 120 days, and to
13 schedule additional hearings in potential
14 communities that will be impacted by this.

15 If our full right to consider and weigh
16 in on the impacts of this project are honored
17 and we are given the time necessary to voice
18 our concerns, it will be plain for all to see that
19 the only answer to Liberty Port in Port Ambrose
20 is, no.

21 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Thank you, Daniel
22 Engel. This is our last speaker but if anybody
23 had any written comments bring them over to the
24 Court Reporter. Thank you.

25 MR. ENGEL: Hi, I'm Dan Engel. I

1 -PORT AMBROSE PROJECT-

2 represent myself, my daughter, my wife and
3 Local 25. I am a Long Islander. I was born
4 and raised in Albertson and I moved to Locust
5 Valley on the North Shore and mostly a shell
6 fisher by trade. I'm a Merchant Marine, fully
7 licensed and I work as a dredger.

8 You people think that the only thing is to
9 stop all of these productions. I got something
10 to tell you, without the dredging, I have no work.
11 Because of New York stopping everything, I am
12 unemployed, and running out of unemployment.
13 I have an autistic child that I can no longer
14 provide for because you people block all of
15 this funding and all this work that I need to
16 go to.

17 You don't want this gas to happen anymore?
18 All of you go and walk home right now and don't
19 get in your God damn cars. On top of it,
20 slaughter all of the cows that live in the midwest
21 that produce more methane than any well or drill
22 in America.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Why is he cursing?
24 There's children here.

25 MR. ENGEL: Shut the hell up. I have

1 -PORT AMBROSE PROJECT-

2 said time and time again that I have to provide to
3 my family. I've lived here. I'm not going to
4 leave here and any time I get a job it's Delaware,
5 New Jersey or anywhere else because they are
6 accepting these things and working with these
7 companies to do the best things. I've dug wells,
8 dug dredging, put pipe in the bottom of the water,
9 and you know what, there hasn't been a million
10 explosions, just 1 or 2. You get the occasional
11 soot. You people suck and you can all go to hell.

12 MS. GOLDHAMMER: Excuse me. Everyone
13 has their chance to speak. We listened to the
14 opposition and we need to listen to the other
15 side. We're at the end of our time this evening.
16 I'm going to pass this over to Mr. Bachman.

17 MR. BACHMAN: I do want to thank you all
18 for coming. Please send your comments to the
19 docket. It will be considered just as though
20 they were spoken here. So, send them in to the
21 docket. Thank you for coming. This concludes the
22 Public Scoping Meeting for Port Ambrose Deepwater
23 License Application and we are now adjourned.
24 Thank you.

25 [TIME NOTED: 8:30 P.M.]

1
2
3
4 CERTIFICATION

5 COUNTY OF SUFFOLK)

6 SS:

7 STATE OF NEW YORK)
89 I, Charmaine DeRosa, Certified Court
10 Reporter, in the State of New York, do
11 hereby certify:12 THAT, the foregoing is a true and
13 accurate transcript of my stenographic
14 notes taken in the matter of the PUBLIC
15 MEETING, on this 9th day of July, 2013.16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
17 set my hand on this 9th day of July,
18 2013.
19
2021 22 Charmaine DeRosa, CSR
23
24
25

Tuesday July 9,
8:04pm

Danielle E. Bissett

Nassau County Resident

Baldwin, NY 11510

I would like to show my
support for a longer
public response period and
the need for more information
especially about all
parties involved.

Thank you.

PUBLIC SCOPING COMMENTS

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

U.S. Coast Guard and the Maritime Administration
Port Ambrose Project (USCG-2013-0363)

July 9, 2013 ♦ 6:00 – 8:00 PM (Public Scoping Meeting) ♦ Long Beach, New York

Comments can be: (1) left at the sign-in table in the comment repository; (2) mailed to the address below;
OR (3) submitted electronically through the web site for the Docket Management System, at
www.regulations.gov.

Please send one copy referenced to Docket No. (USCG-2013-0363) to the address below:

Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation
West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.,
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Comments: (Please Print; Please continue on back or attach an additional sheet if necessary.)

Where do we as citizen benefit from this plant? My home had a carbon monoxide leak which they had to shut down the gas to my home. What are you going to do to keep us safe. Our shores are too busy for this type of tanker. You are not putting something up that will make or keep our Island safe. We don't feel that we need something in such a heavily populated area. Because of hurricanes snow storms etc. This is dangerous for all of us. (I had a brain tumor removed, please excuse my writing)

Commenter's Name and Mailing Address: (Please Print)

Caprice Ann Rines
29 Carolina Ave
Hempstead NY 11550



CITY OF LONG BEACH

WEST CHESTER STREET
LONG BEACH, NY 11561
(516) 431-1000
FAX (516) 431-1389

CHARLES T. THEOFAN
CITY MANAGER

The Honorable David A. Paterson
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

February 6, 2009

Dear Governor Paterson,

The members of the Long Beach City Council, Long Beach, NY have asked me to write you to express our unanimous opposition to the construction of the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) deep water port proposed by the private investment group, the Atlantic Sea Island Group, 13 miles off the coast of Long Beach, NY. We strongly urge you to veto this proposal.

Our City is an ocean beach community. There is a 2 1/4 mile long boardwalk and the adjacent beach which is a 3.5-mile stretch of white sand open to the public year round. The construction of a LNG receiving, storage and regasification facility would greatly affect both our waters and the quality of life for our residents.

The council strongly opposes this idea as it would industrialize our public waters, endanger the delicate ecosystem and has the potential to create a public safety catastrophe.

We understand the need for increased energy resources in our State. However, we do not believe a man-made 60.5-acre island that stores liquefied natural gas is the correct approach. Any benefits derived from enhancing the natural gas supply are outweighed by the negative environmental and safety issues as well as, the disruptive navigational and recreational impacts this project will have on our waters and our community.

The council believes that the proposed project poses unacceptable risks from the standpoint of environmental issues, safety and water security. The council respectfully requests that you consider our comments and opposition in your deliberations on this important issue.

We further request that you support our opposition to the proposal by vetoing it. We thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles T. Theofan".

Charles T. Theofan
City Manager, City of Long Beach, New York

Nerti Gustafson
551 W Walnut St
Long Beach, NY 11561

I came here tonight to ~~see~~ see
what this project was about.

The timeframe and minimal hearings
concerned me. why? Don't you want everyone's
input.

I am very concerned about any
possible negative effects for the Ocean,
our beaches and our communities.

This is not how I think our
Country should be heading. We
need clean, renewable energy. I'll
support that and I will pay more
for it.

~~But~~ I am against this. To hear
all of these concerned and informed people
comment on Fracking and the ease of flipping
this to an export facility is down right scary.
We have learned a very real lesson in how vulnerable
our country is.
I can only speak for myself and my
friends and family. Right now we are fighting
our insurance companies, we are fighting our

Mortgage Companies and we are pulling together
and fighting to restore our community
Now we will fight this project

Why take these risks? Who is making
money. I am not interested in any
cheap energy. I want my government and
its agencies to promote renewable energy
Now is the time. I'll pay more. The
Ocean and our communities can not
be replaced.

~~This seems like~~
The fact that Fracking is ~~so~~ in Pennsylvania
has ~~not~~ shown that the ~~5 ex-governors~~
~~have~~ government officials will go to work
for these Fracking Companies reminds me
of the FDA and Monsanto.
Government should protect the people

**Testimony at the Maritime Administration Public Hearing re the Port Ambrose Application
7/9/2013**

My name is Mary Anne Sullivan. I am an environmental researcher and a member of the committee on energy, agriculture and the environment of the New York State League of Women Voters. I testify today on my own behalf. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

The Port Ambrose LNG Application is the same application opposed by Gov. Christie. It is an application which must be considered as an export as well as import application due to the Deepwater Act of 2013 whereby all import/export applications are considered as both. An export LNG port is likely to further incentivize acceleration of natural gas exploration in Marcellus shale. This will industrialize the land above and further contribute to warming and pollution of the air, water and land. Currently, the public comment period ends July 23rd and the public needs to be informed about this project. With an Application in excess of 1000 pages, the public needs at least 120 days to seriously analyze this application and its implications and an opportunity for more hearings including in New York City.

Some important considerations include:

- Justification of the present and projected regional need to import natural gas.
- The safety of an LNG port situated in the middle of existing commercial shipping lanes with consideration of the 32 ft. waves from Sandy.
- The lack of long-term economic benefits for NY and NJ associated with the import application, including local jobs, related business income and tax revenue.
- The disruption of shipping, commerce and fishing, while these huge LNG ships (SRVs) and vessels that serve them are underway and turning in and out of shipping lanes.
- The exclusion of fishing in a zone around the port.
- Projected measurement of the additional greenhouse gas emissions which will be released into the air during operations, construction and decommissioning; potential impacts on climate and weather patterns and efforts to minimize these emissions.
- The avoidance, minimization and mitigation measures to ensure that impacts on the aquatic environment from construction of the 22 mile pipeline and port, RLNG vessel water intake and discharge of treated water during operations have been avoided or minimized to the extent practicable. This includes a detailed fisheries monitoring plan.
- The threat to endangered species such as specific whales (North Atlantic Right Whale), fish (Atlantic Sturgeon), sea turtles and seals and protections provided.
- Comprehensive safety measures to eliminate risks of collision by LNG vessels with wind turbines from an expansive wind power project operating in the same area; the latter is a project proposed over a year ago.

The public needs at least 120 days to give sufficient attention to this LNG import/export application near the NY/NJ harbor, as well additional hearings in major cities.

Mary Anne Sullivan
Environmental Researcher

maryannedsullivan@gmail.com 60 Riverside Dr., NY, NY 10024

2 attachments — [Download all attachments](#) [View all images](#)

Attempt2_StilltheSame.png

229K [View](#) [Download](#)

Attempt1_Withdrawn.png

116K [View](#) [Download](#)

this should have been a fair proceeding
where there would have been questions & answers. There was no information given here no discussion. Also, to have a meeting like this in a place where peoples lives have been destroyed from Sandy & our environment is so shifty & sneaky. Not many people will be here to object to this project.

Native Americans worried ~~us~~ ^{ess} that we would destroy our country & earth - money - greed - power against the public

I do not want my family

subjected to fracking -
gas explosion! this is ~~not~~ ^{an} ~~issue~~ ^{issue}

People want a job at our expense?
I don't care if they get a job
& we explode!

HOBIA

Many Haas,
2/8 active are
Lyndale, NY
11563

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Appendix C-2

New Jersey Scoping Meeting - July 10, 2013

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 Maritime Administration
 Docket No. USC-2013-0363

-----:
 In Re: : TRANSCRIPT OF
 : PROCEEDINGS
 Deepwater Port License Application :
 Liberty Natural Gas, LLC, Port :
 Ambrose Deepwater Port :
 Public Scoping Hearing :
 -----:

New Jersey Convention and Exposition Center
 Edison, New Jersey
 Wednesday July 10, 2013
 Commencing 6:00 p.m.

B E F O R E:

RODDY BACHMAN
 KEITH LESNICK
 TIM FEEHAN
 FACILITATOR - LINDA MATHER

BETSY CONDIOTTI & ASSOCIATES
 COURT REPORTING SERVICES
 1602 LAWRENCE AVENUE, SUITE 107
 OCEAN, NEW JERSEY 07712
 (732)- 922 - 2110
 bcondiotti@verizon.net
 "PRESERVING YOUR RECORD"

1 MS. MATHER: I'd like you all to please come
2 and sit down so we can start the meeting officially. We
3 have a very full agenda and a number of people who want
4 to speak tonight, so I ask you, please, to come forward
5 so that we can begin. Thank you. I'd like to welcome
6 you to this scoping meeting about the Port Ambrose
7 project. My name is Linda Mather and I'll be the
8 facilitator for the meeting this evening. I'm going to
9 tell you more about the public comment which I will be
10 working with you on later, but first I'd like to
11 introduce the three gentlemen to my right, because
12 they're going to explain the outline of the project, as
13 well as the outline for the process of which this public
14 hearing is a part. So I ask you to please give them
15 your attention and we'll get started to my immediate
16 right.

17 MR. BACHMAN: Thank you, Linda. I see some
18 familiar faces here from last night. Good evening.
19 Welcome, ladies and gentlemen. I hope you had the
20 opportunity to attend our informational open house and
21 now I want to welcome you to the public scoping meeting
22 for the Port Ambrose Deepwater LNG port. My name is
23 Roddy Bachman, Project Manager in the Deepwater Port
24 Standards Division at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters.
25 With me is Mr. Keith Lesnick with the Maritime

1 Administration and Mr. Timothy Feehan with Tetra Tech,
2 our environmental consultant. And you met Ms. Linda
3 Mathis.

4 In a few minutes, my colleagues will provide
5 you an overview of their agency or organizations' roles
6 and responsibilities regarding the Port Ambrose
7 deepwater port license application. But first I'd like
8 to give you a brief background on this process.

9 In November 2002, Congress passed the
10 Maritime Transportation Security Act, which amended the
11 Deepwater Port Act of 1974 by adding the importation of
12 natural gas.

13 One of those applications was submitted on
14 September 28, 2012 by Liberty Natural Gas to own,
15 construct, and operate a natural gas deepwater port in
16 Federal waters of the New York Bight approximately 17
17 nautical miles southeast of Jones Beach. This deepwater
18 port is Port Ambrose and is the subject of this meeting.

19 On June 14, 2013, the Maritime
20 Administration and the Coast Guard published a notice in
21 the Federal Register stating that the Port Ambrose
22 application appeared to contain the required information
23 to proceed. In that notice, New Jersey and New York
24 were identified as the adjacent coastal states. This
25 gives the Governors specific authority in the deepwater

1 port approval process under the Deepwater Port Act to
2 approve, disapprove or notify the Maritime
3 Administration of inconsistencies in State programs
4 relating to the environmental protection, land and water
5 use and coastal zone management for which MARAD may
6 condition the license to make consistent.

7 An additional clarification is this is a
8 different project under a new application than the
9 original Liberty Deepwater Port proposed in 2010. Port
10 Ambrose is further east, has no shore crossing pipeline
11 component and has two buoys versus the four proposed
12 with the first project. Though the original Liberty
13 application was amended in November of 2011 similar to
14 what is proposed for Port Ambrose, that application
15 amendment was never processed prior to withdrawal in
16 April of 2012.

17 An important part of the overall licensing
18 process required by the Deepwater Port Act is an
19 environmental review. In this case an Environmental
20 Impact Statement will be prepared in accordance with the
21 Natural Environmental Policy Act NEPA.

22 The Notice of Intent preparing an EIS was
23 announced in the Federal Register on June 24 which also
24 announced this meeting and included instructions for
25 submitting comments. The EIS will describe the nature

1 and extent of the environmental impact of the proposed
2 action alternatives and a description of the affected
3 environment, and an evaluation of the impacts on the
4 natural and human environment by the proposed action and
5 the alternatives.

6 We must seek input from the public as well
7 as from other federal, state and local agencies. The
8 intent of this scoping meeting is to receive your input
9 on any issue you think should be considered in the scope
10 of this environmental impact analysis. I would like to
11 emphasize that this meeting will not be the only
12 opportunity you will have to provide input on the
13 application. However, written comments on the scope
14 should be received by August 22, 2013. That is August
15 22, 2013. There was an original error date; there was a
16 Federal Register published yesterday that said July
17 23rd, but there will be a new notice of August 22nd.
18 It's been extended for 30 days. Our environmental
19 consultant, Mr. Tim Feehan, will discuss additional
20 comment opportunities in a few moments. For the
21 purposes of tonight, please note that written and oral
22 comments are given equal consideration and it is not
23 necessary to give your comments twice.

24 Written comments may also be submitted to
25 the Docket Management System at regulations.gov. This is

1 the public record for the project that contains and/or
2 will contain the application, federal register notices,
3 associated documentation, public and agency comments,
4 public meeting transcripts, such as this one, and the
5 draft and final EIS. And these are or will be available
6 for viewing and commenting directly on-line.

7 To issue a deepwater port license, there are
8 a number of elements that must be considered by the
9 Maritime Administration which Mr. Lesnick will discuss
10 in a moment, but now I'd like to provide a brief
11 overview of the Coast Guard's responsibility regarding
12 the license application process.

13 I want to make it clear that the Coast Guard
14 is neither a proponent nor an opponent for any deepwater
15 port project. I also want to emphasize that only after
16 the environmental review and license processes have been
17 completed can there be any activity on the proposed
18 project.

19 The Coast Guard and Maritime administration
20 work together processing the deepwater port
21 applications. Although the Maritime Administrator will
22 ultimately decide whether to approve, disapprove or
23 approve with conditions, a license for this proposed
24 deepwater port, the Coast Guard will be the lead agency
25 developing the environmental impact analysis as one of

1 the key components to that decision. In fulfilling this
2 role, the Coast Guard must seek the input from the
3 public as well as from other federal and state agencies
4 in New York, New Jersey to ensure the potential impacts
5 from each state have been considered.

6 The Coast Guard is also responsible for
7 conducting an independent risk assessment of the port
8 and operations and equipment to identify potential
9 hazards and develop maritime safety and security risk
10 mitigation strategies. This includes waterways
11 management, and such measures as safety and security
12 zones, no anchoring areas, areas to be avoided and any
13 special routing measures. And should the port be
14 approved and for the life of the port, we would review
15 and approve port design standards, construction,
16 commissioning, operations, security and maintenance and
17 inspection. With the Maritime Administration and other
18 appropriate agencies, the review and approval of any
19 substantive changes to the port operations or equipment
20 that could impact the environment and/or maritime and
21 safety and security would be assessed. And ensuring
22 compliance with various domestic and international laws
23 for regulations for the LNG vessels calling on Port
24 Ambrose would also be part of this responsibility.

25 Now at this time I'd like to introduce Mr.

1 Keith Lesnick with the Maritime Administration who will
2 describe the responsibilities of his agency.

3 MR. LESNICK: Thank you. Well, I'm Keith
4 Lesnick. I'm an associate administrator at the Maritime
5 Administration. I'm an associate administrator at the
6 Maritime Administration and licensing for these projects
7 fall under my office's authority. And I wanted to point
8 out before we started, because we hadn't done a public
9 meeting like this in a long time, but last night the
10 rules for us are that we are in a sleep mode after we
11 make our statements. We listen to you and the court
12 reporter takes down what you have to say and we take
13 that in and put it into the record. So we can't
14 essentially respond to you while you're talking this
15 evening. So if anybody has any questions that they
16 have, that they still have after this is all over that
17 they want to talk to me afterwards, I'd be more than
18 happy to speak with them. And I say that for another
19 reason, because last night there was what I can only
20 describe as a mischaracterization of the licensing
21 project of this particular project in terms of the
22 application that we have in front of us today. So what
23 I'd like to do is take probably 60 seconds to read to
24 you from a letter that Mark Prescott of the Coast Guard,
25 who is Roddy's boss, and I sent to the Catskill Citizens

1 for Safe Energy that we sent on July 8th. It was a
2 letter that in part extended the comment period to
3 August 22nd, but in part addressed the concern that this
4 Port Ambrose port could be used for export of LNG. And
5 so I'm going to read it in its entirety. It's just a
6 paragraph.

7 "Although the deep water port was amended to
8 allow exports, the application to own, construct and
9 operate the proposed Port Ambrose facility is an
10 application for a natural gas import terminal only. The
11 authority to export natural gas to the Port Ambrose
12 facility would constitute such a significant change from
13 the proposal now under review, that it would require a
14 new license application in its entirety. To be clear,
15 the export of natural gas is not considered in this
16 application, nor would the authority to do so be
17 included in the license, if the application were to be
18 approved."

19 Because after last night's hearing and I was
20 concerned about it, I spoke to my boss. We would also,
21 if the license were going to be approved and that's a
22 big "if." If that were to be the case, we would also
23 put a condition of the license in there that this
24 terminal in perpetuity would be used for importation of
25 natural gas only. So we would strictly forbid any

1 export.

2 There are many differences between an import
3 and export facility and it would be boring to go into it
4 right now. If you want to talk about it afterwards we
5 can, but I just wanted to make sure that everybody knew
6 that. Because I think there was confusion about it last
7 night and it doesn't help the process, because in terms
8 of commenting, you're commenting on an import facility.

9 My boss, the Maritime administrator, has the
10 authority delegated from the secretary of transportation
11 to issue deepwater port licenses. We're very happy to
12 be here working with the US Coast Guard on this project.
13 And I want to make it perfectly clear, we're not a
14 proponent or an opponent. We're here to receive --
15 we're a federal agency required to license these
16 facilities. So that's one of the reasons why this
17 meeting is important. We obviously have a keen interest
18 in the thorough environmental analysis of this project
19 and at the end the of the deepwater port license
20 application process, the Maritime administrator will
21 have a decision to make, to issue the license or to
22 reject it. To issue it, to issue it with certain
23 conditions or to reject it.

24 One of the things we do and when we do
25 actually issue the license is we develop a record of

1 decision. And in that record of decision are things
2 that are extremely important to not only the
3 application, but to people that have concerns about the
4 operation of the facility and to the local states that
5 are impacted by that, might be impacted by that
6 facility. A favorable decision to all of this would be
7 based on the assurance that the applicant is financially
8 responsible. And in that we make the applicant post a
9 guarantee under a bond that the facility will be
10 decommissioned and removed at the end of its life. The
11 applicant is also able to comply with all applicable
12 laws and regulations and license conditions. The
13 deepwater port will operate in the national interest and
14 be consistent with national security, energy sufficiency
15 and environmental policy goals. The deepwater port will
16 not unreasonably interfere with international navigation
17 and it will be constructed and operated to prevent or
18 minimize adverse impacts to any of the marine
19 environment. The deepwater port must also comply with
20 all natural environmental laws. There must be an
21 approved coastal zone management program in place that
22 it fits into. The secretaries of army, state and
23 defense were consulted on the effects of this port on
24 their operations and the governors, in this case the
25 governors of two states, must approve or have presumed

1 to approve the deepwater port process application.

2 It's important to note that if the governor
3 or in this case governors may approve the license, they
4 may approve it with conditions or they may deny the
5 license. So if either one of the governors of New York
6 and New Jersey decide to disapprove this, we can't go
7 forward with the license. The license processing stops
8 at that point in time.

9 These license requirements are stringent.
10 They're completely enforceable and we do enforce them.
11 We monitor them. So if anyone -- if they violate any
12 one then we pull their license.

13 And finally, we consider the environmental
14 impact document to be a major part of this project
15 application and process. And that's what's so important
16 about tonight and the start of the scoping process. And
17 it has a substantial bearing on the final license.

18 So I appreciate the fact that everyone is
19 here tonight and I'm anxious to hear what you have to
20 say and if you have questions afterwards, I'll be more
21 than happy to talk to you. Thank you.

22 MR. FEEHAN: Good evening. My name is Tim
23 Feehan. I'm with Tetra Tech. We are the U.S. Coast
24 Guards' environmental consultant preparing the Coast
25 Guard and Maritime Environmental Impact Statement, or

1 EIS, for the proposed Port Ambrose LNG deepwater port.
2 I am Tetra Tech's project manager for the EIS.

3 I want to provide an overview of the public
4 participation process that is involved in preparing the
5 EIS. Tetra Tech is a science-based environmental
6 consultant firm experienced in preparing EISs and
7 related studies. My team includes specialists in many
8 resource areas covering all the environmental sciences,
9 including biologists, chemists, geologists and
10 engineers. We will be doing an independent evaluation
11 of the environmental impacts of the proposed project.
12 We will assist the U.S. Coast Guard in preparing the EIS
13 to explain what those impacts will be. The EIS is being
14 conducted in accordance with the National Environmental
15 Policy Act known as NEPA. Public involvement is a
16 fundamental aspect of NEPA and the U.S. Coast Guard's
17 environmental policies. In addition to the publication
18 of the NOI mentioned previously, the U.S. Coast Guard
19 distributed a Dear Interested Party letter. This letter
20 was distributed widely throughout New York and New
21 Jersey to federal state and local agencies, elected
22 officials and the public. This letter provides a
23 summary and scoping meeting logistics for those that
24 normally do not read the federal register. A public
25 notice concerning this meeting was also published in

1 local newspapers. We have also held a scoping meeting
2 in Long Beach, New York last night. Oral and written
3 comments made today will be recorded and addressed in
4 the draft EIS. In addition to providing comments
5 tonight, you can also submit written comments to the
6 docket over the internet by fax or by mail. Details are
7 provided with our posters in the other room under the
8 heading and it's also available as a handout, Deepwater
9 Port Applications and process part two.

10 Please use only one of the methods to make
11 your comments. At a minimum, an environmental analysis
12 will be completed on the following topics in the EIS,
13 geology, sediments, water resources, fisheries,
14 wildlife, threatened and endangered species,
15 socioeconomics, transportation, cultural resources,
16 marine biology, noise, recreation and aesthetics, and
17 reliability and safety. We will consider the
18 environmental effects of construction, operation and
19 decommission of this deepwater port. In addition, we
20 will look at the cumulative impact of other foreseeable
21 projects within the project vicinity.

22 One of our responsibilities in preparing the
23 EIS is to analyze a range of alternatives. We will
24 consider alternative locations for the deepwater port
25 and alternative off-shore pipeline routes. We will look

1 at alternative deepwater port concepts and alternative
2 LNG technology, the no action alternative or what would
3 happen if the license is not granted and the project is
4 not built, and as mentioned earlier, the cumulative
5 impacts of the project will also be considered.

6 The next step in this process will be to
7 prepare the draft EIS. To announce the availability of
8 the draft EIS for public review, we will publish a
9 notice of availability for the draft EIS in the federal
10 register and place ads in local newspapers. When the
11 draft EIS is completed, copies will be sent to federal,
12 state, regional and local agencies and local groups and
13 individuals who have requested copies. Additional
14 copies will be placed in public libraries where the
15 public may review them. The draft EIS will also be
16 available on the docket via the internet or by
17 requesting one from the U.S. Coast Guard. If you have
18 not already done so, please indicate on the registration
19 card located in the hallway at the entrance if you would
20 like to receive a copy of the draft EIS when it becomes
21 available and a copy will be sent to you. The U.S.
22 Coast Guard and MARAD will return to the New York/New
23 Jersey area to hold a public meeting to provide citizens
24 an opportunity to make formal oral comments concerning
25 the draft EIS. Resource experts will be present to

1 answer questions and the public will have this
2 additional opportunity to enter comments and concerns
3 into the official record. After the close of the public
4 comment period on the draft EIS, we will assist the U.S.
5 Coast Guard in preparing the final EIS, including an
6 explanation of how comments were considered. On
7 completion of the final EIS, though not part of the NEPA
8 and EIS process, we will hold at least one public
9 meeting in New York and New Jersey to solicit comments
10 on the final EIS and the Port Ambrose license
11 application. Again, the dates, locations and times will
12 be announced in the federal register and local
13 newspapers. When the EIS is finalized, MARAD will use
14 it as one of the inputs to their decision on whether to
15 issue the license, not issue the license or issue it
16 with specific conditions. As described on our poster
17 and also available as another handout and this is under
18 the requirements for issuance of license to own and
19 operate in the deepwater port, there are requirements in
20 addition to the environmental impacts that must be
21 considered in the decision on the final license action.

22 Thank you for taking the time to come out
23 and meet with us tonight and I'll hand this back over.

24 MS. MATHER: Okay, thank you. We turn now
25 to the public comment. Let me explain some things

1 first. Would you please turn off your cell phones so
2 that we don't have that as a disturbance. Then
3 secondly, one of the difficulties here and you can see
4 that by the number of people, we want to try to be fair
5 to everybody. And that's one of the reasons that we
6 have time limits. So each of you will be given three
7 minutes and we also have very high-tech responses here.
8 So I will waive this at you when you have 15 seconds
9 left and I will waive this at you when you are finished.
10 Now, you are not allowed to play the game of burying
11 your head in your written materials so you can't see me.
12 I caught you. So you can't do that. I also ask you
13 please to refrain from applause or other outbursts,
14 because all you're doing is using up time. And if this
15 is any indication, we're going to be sleeping here. And
16 I don't think anybody wants to do that. So we want to
17 be as efficient as we can about this. If you have any
18 combination of a written version with what you want to
19 say, a written version instead of saying something, a
20 written version that goes well over three minutes,
21 please give it to the court reporter to my left because
22 she will be taking all of that information and bringing
23 it together.

24 Again, I want to remind you, and the
25 gentlemen have illustrated this, this is not the only

1 opportunity to have your say. There are a variety of
2 other ways to do it. And certainly in terms of dialog,
3 the dialog, one opportunity was before the meeting, they
4 will be around later. This has a very formal process in
5 terms of the way that you present your information. So
6 I ask you, please, to abide by that and to make it easy
7 for all of us in terms of how we proceed here. Okay.

8 Now, the other thing that we do is as a
9 courtesy, we allow the elected officials to speak first.
10 So I have two elected officials or their representatives
11 someplace in the room. And nobody is moving. Yes,
12 okay, we have one. I'm sorry, very minor issue, you
13 must come to the podium here and speak into the
14 microphone. I would also ask each of you -- and am I
15 assuming this is Alexandra?

16 MS. MALDONADO: Yes.

17 MS. MATHER: Would you also spell your last
18 name? Because I'm going to mutilate it probably and the
19 court reporter needs the correct spelling.

20 MS. MALDONADO: It's Alexandra
21 M-a-l-d-o-n-a-d-o. I'm with the office of Congressman
22 Frank Pallone. This statement is from the Congressman.
23 I apologize I could not be here with you this evening,
24 but I am in Washington DC, because Congress is voting
25 this evening. I am opposed to the proposed Liberty

1 Natural Gas offshore liquified natural gas project
2 planned for 24 miles off the coast of Long Branch, New
3 Jersey. This project is strikingly similar to the one
4 that was vetoed by Governor Christie in 2011.

5 Throughout my tenure as an elected official,
6 I have opposed industrial uses of the ocean off the
7 coast of our state. I have fought against offshore oil
8 and gas drilling, and well as worked successfully to end
9 ocean dumping.

10 Instead of focusing on industrial uses of
11 the ocean, our country and the state of New Jersey
12 should be encouraging renewable energy resources. Any
13 energy development in the Atlantic Ocean should be from
14 renewable sources and not polluting fossil fuels. The
15 Obama administration is prioritizing offshore wind
16 energy development in areas off the Atlantic coast,
17 including New Jersey. This is exactly the type of clean
18 energy America should be investing in that will reduce
19 our dependence on foreign oil and gas and create jobs.

20 I understand that the LNG project will
21 create jobs during the construction phase, but we must
22 also think of the jobs that would be lost if an LNG
23 spill occurred off our coast. The Jersey Shore is the
24 primary driver of the tourism economy that sustains
25 nearly 500,000 jobs and generates approximately 50

1 billion dollars in economic activity for the state each
2 year. In the late 1980s when beaches were closed due to
3 contaminated material washing ashore, many jobs were
4 lost in the local tourism industry. When the Deepwater
5 Horizon spill occurred in the Gulf of Mexico, local
6 economies felt it the hardest when tourism fell off
7 drastically and commercial fisherman were barred from
8 fishing in large swaths of the gulf. We cannot allow
9 this to happen off our coast.

10 I am surprised that this proposed project is
11 moving forward given Governor Christie's public
12 opposition to LNG facilities off the coast of New Jersey
13 and prior veto of a similar project in 2011. Under the
14 Deepwater Port Act, Governor Christie, as the governor
15 of an adjacent coastal state, has the absolute power to
16 veto the Liberty Natural Gas project. New Jersey should
17 be taking a national lead on promoting a forward-looking
18 energy policy that moves towards increased use of
19 renewable energy sources that create jobs here at home
20 and away from importing or exporting polluting fossil
21 fuels from other countries. I will continue to work
22 with my colleagues and Congress to incentivize these
23 types of clean energy sources. Thank you.

24 MS. MATHER: And thank you. And do I
25 understand -- I can't talk over you. Then I have Diana

1 Paradis and that's somebody coming to the podium.

2 MS. PARADIS: P-a-r-a-d-i-s, and I speak not
3 for myself, but for Assemblyman Sean Kean. This is a
4 message from his office. He issued the following
5 statement on the new proposal to build a liquified
6 natural gas terminal off the coast of New Jersey and New
7 York. Liberty LNG is proposing to build an LNG terminal
8 called Port Ambrose 24 miles off the coast of Long
9 Branch, New Jersey. I had previously stated my
10 opposition deciding LNG facilities off the coast of New
11 Jersey and in 2010 I was the prime sponsor of
12 legislation to oppose the development of LNGs off our
13 coastline. I remain concerned about any new proposal,
14 including Port Ambrose, to create an LNG terminal right
15 off the coast of Long Branch. Thank you.

16 MS. MATHER: Thank you. I'm going to turn
17 now to the public comments. And what I'm going to ask
18 you to do please, again, in an effort to try to speed
19 this up, Jeff Tittel I believe it is, Jim Walsh and
20 Cindy Zipf. If Jim and Cindy could kind of get ready,
21 unless you're right there, Jim? You're right there, no
22 problem. Let me go with Jeff. And spell your last
23 name.

24 MR. TITTEL: Jeff Tittel, T-i-t-t-e-l,
25 director of New Jersey chapter Sierra Club. And I'm

1 here today representing not only our 20,000 members and
2 50,000 supporters in New Jersey, but our 2 million
3 nationwide. We believe that this proposal is a bad
4 proposal both environmentally and economically. We
5 believe that this proposal will not only hurt the
6 environment in construction, but it will become an
7 export facility. And the reason is it's very easy to
8 change the rules once you build it, once you get a
9 permit because you can say it's underutilized,
10 therefore, we have to switch it. You can say that we
11 have the same technology and no one is coming in because
12 it's on board ship today. And we're going through this
13 in Maryland with another facility that was supposed to
14 be and it was licensed as and there was an ACO that it
15 was supposed to be import only and it's now trying to
16 become an export facility because the law changed. So I
17 believe when that statement was made that it was just
18 more gas added to the atmosphere.

19 We're very concerned about this facility,
20 one, because the coast of New Jersey is irreplaceable;
21 two, it's in areas of the state, of our coast that are
22 important for fisheries, for shipping. They're also in
23 areas where we would like to see windmills being built.
24 And we believe this interferes with this. Quite
25 frankly, given all the gas that is in this country,

1 there is no reason for an import facility. We've got a
2 100-year supply. We believe we need an LNG facility off
3 our coast like we need another superstorm. We're also
4 concerned about the potential of secondary impacts of
5 pipelines being built from the Marcellus Shale and in
6 shale areas of Pennsylvania heading eastward. We're
7 dealing with six of them including one yesterday where
8 they're doing drilling under the Delaware Water Gap and
9 the road collapsed from it. And here we're going to be
10 talking about using millions of gallons of fluid and
11 every time there's a ship you're going to be discharging
12 millions of gallons of chemically treated water. We
13 think that this is a danger. You're here to -- at this
14 scoping we talk about EIS. There's only one sure way of
15 protecting the environment. Don't permit. Very simple.

16 We are also here because we believe that
17 this will undermine clean energy and our future. Quite
18 frankly, we're at a crossroads in this country where we
19 can have clean air and clean water and renewable energy
20 or we can be tied to the fossil fuels of the past and
21 that's what we see this project as. You know, when you
22 deal with development issues, you know, so many times
23 you see a development they call Stone Ridges where it
24 took off the top of a mountain or Willowbrook where you
25 filled in the wet lands. And calling this Liberty is

1 really an insult. This is the opposite of liberty.
2 This is chaining us to technology of the past and
3 chaining us to fossil fuels. And we believe that the
4 only way to protect the environment is not to build it.
5 If we want to have a strong coast and we want to have a
6 clean energy future, we do not need LNG. We do not need
7 the danger from it. In case there's a spill, it's not
8 really a spill, it's freezing and exploding. And quite
9 frankly, we believe we're better off with clean energy
10 and not this project.

11 (Applause)

12 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Mr. Walsh?

13 MR. WALSH: I had some people ask me to ask
14 you if there's a way to turn up the volume because
15 people are having trouble hearing the speakers.

16 MS. MATHER: Here's the volume, okay. Thank
17 you. I appreciate the feedback.

18 MR. WALSH: Can I get an extra 30 seconds?

19 MS. MATHER: No.

20 MR. WALSH: My name is Jim Walsh. I'm the
21 MidAtlantic director for Food and Water Watch. You
22 know, this is about what we're going to look at this
23 project as, what this project is going to be at the end
24 of the day and the evaluation of that project. And the
25 company by calling this an import facility is trying to

1 narrow that picture. Not that I feel any better about
2 them doing fracking in Africa, South Africa, North
3 Africa or Europe and then bringing that gas here as
4 they're essentially proposing to do, but the economics
5 don't make sense for this project. The gas industry
6 right now is producing gas through fracking at about 25
7 percent of the cost, which means that they're losing a
8 tremendous amount of money on every well they frack and
9 sell in the United States. In Europe where they're able
10 to sell the gas for six times as much or Asia where
11 they're able to sell the gas for eight times as much is
12 what the industry broadly wants to do. To ignore the
13 economics of this project would be a disgrace to the
14 people in this room and the communities that will be
15 impacted by it. But beyond that, their goal is to
16 segment this project down so that when they apply for
17 that export permit, they don't have to look at this part
18 of the project. The industry is constantly trying to
19 segment these projects into smaller and smaller chunks
20 so that we can't look at the big picture, so that we're
21 not looking at the pipelines that are being built across
22 the highlands the same time that we're looking at a
23 project that's threatening our ocean life. So that
24 we're not looking at fracking wells being drilled in
25 Pennsylvania and communities like Dimock who had their

1 water poisoned because of this process. Their goal is
2 to keep you from looking at the socioeconomic impact of
3 the people in Jersey or Pennsylvania that were evicted
4 from their homes so the fracking industry could extract
5 water to drill for natural gas in Central Pennsylvania.
6 They don't want you to look at those socioeconomic
7 projects, but you need to. They don't want you to look
8 at impacts that this is having on farming and
9 agricultural, rural areas and food production. They
10 want you to look at a very narrow segment of this
11 project which even on those grounds should be rejected
12 because we have a future that is in front of us and we
13 have a decision to make about where that future will go.
14 Will this be a future that continues to drive us towards
15 climate change and continues to threaten our drinking
16 water and continues to threaten public health and
17 continues to threaten our democracy with companies that
18 influence our political process through campaign
19 contribution to move processes like this forward? Or is
20 it going to be one where we listen to the people who
21 want our future, who want a future for our children, who
22 want clean drinking water, who want an ocean we can fish
23 in, or who want to have farms that are providing safe
24 food for our communities? We have a project that's
25 ahead of us that you are responsible for looking at in a

1 very important and deliberate way. I ask you as the
2 American Administration of Coast Guard and a private
3 contractor which I also have issues with that I won't go
4 into now, privatizing our EIS project is also ridiculous
5 as far as I'm concerned, but you have a responsibility
6 to look at the entirety of this project and not just at
7 what Liberty has put in front of you. Look at the
8 economics, you will see that this will fail with the
9 economics of what they're proposing and look at the
10 entirety of the project.

11 MS. MATHER: Thank you, Mr. Walsh. Thank
12 you. Cindy Zipf? Cindy Zipf? And behind Cindy will be
13 Sean Dixon. So if Sean wants to get available at some
14 point.

15 MS. ZIPF: Good evening, everyone. Thank
16 you so much for joining us here. Thank you for finding
17 your way.

18 (Applause)

19 MS. MATHER: You need to, please, I ask you
20 to be quiet. It's coming off of her time.

21 MS. ZIPF: My name is Cindy Zipf. I'm
22 executive director of Clean Ocean Action and we're here
23 because Liberty Natural Gas, a mysterious, unwelcome,
24 foreign-affiliated corporation will not take no for an
25 answer. And Liberty is using its sizeable and

1 considerable money and influence in Washington to move
2 this federal process forward. We're not happy, at all,
3 that the Maritime Administration Coast Guard has chosen
4 to ignore the Jersey Shore by not holding a public
5 hearing and only holding the hearing here in Edison when
6 the pipeline comes within 13 miles of Sandy Hook. It is
7 not fair for you to ignore the Jersey Shore and we will
8 not be ignored, which is why many of them are here today
9 and we are going to continue speaking out tomorrow.

10 This project purports to be an import
11 facility. It just doesn't square with the financial,
12 economic reality of today. The United States is at near
13 zero for imports. That's not my number, it's the
14 federal government's number. And expected to be zero,
15 near zero out to 2030. We have 40 times the capacity
16 within today's infrastructure, including along the
17 MidAtlantic region to bring in liquified natural gas.
18 We don't need it. We know this is about exports.
19 There's too much money and Marcellus Shale is only right
20 across, over across the river right there and England is
21 across the pond. That makes all the sense in the world
22 and it's a bait-and-switch trojan horse and we know it.
23 Your words that the law, that the application is not
24 about exports are just words. It's the law. It's the
25 Congressional law that would allow you to make it an

1 export facility. And once it's there, it's there. It's
2 there for decades. And it can change names. It can
3 change companies. Right now it's this unknown company
4 in the Cayman Islands, it could be sold right away to
5 another corporation, a massive corporation for gas
6 exports. So the promises from the company that it's
7 only going to be an import facility fall on deaf ears.
8 The reality is it's about exports. And the security
9 issues are something that we're very much concerned
10 about. Our U.S. Coast Guard, notwithstanding our
11 challenges with them on this hearing today, but are
12 champions and defender of our coast. And we know that
13 they are underfunded and understaffed to do what they
14 need to do just right now. In fact, in 2007 a report
15 that we did, we quoted the general accounting offices
16 saying the units of the Coast Guard report insufficient
17 resources to meet its own self-imposed security
18 standards such as exporting ships containing LNG. That
19 was in 2007 and that was when there were only five LNG
20 ports. There are a lot more now. So that's very, very
21 alarming. The security issues are very, very real and
22 this is right at the front door of the port of New York
23 and New Jersey and the most densely populated urbanized
24 area in America.

25 For these reasons and many, many, many more

1 is why Governor Christie vetoed the project because it's
2 risky for the environment, it's risky for our economy
3 and it's risky for our national security. So we want to
4 know, this project should have been dead in the water a
5 long time ago. And that's what we're going to make sure
6 it is, dead in the water.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. MATHER: Thank you. The next person is
9 Sean Dixon and behind, who I think is right there, is
10 Robert Remm. So Robert, if you wanted to get ready, but
11 Sean, you're on.

12 MR. DIXON: Thank you very much. First
13 speaking to the eloquent statement we heard today about
14 MARAD choosing to license this project and it being a
15 license for export only, that is very true. A license
16 can be made with conditions that this be for imports.
17 Unfortunately for us, a license under the Deepwater Port
18 Act can be amended and conditions can be revoked. One
19 change in administration could change your conclusion
20 that MARAD would choose to require a new application.
21 That is not something that is set in stone, a license or
22 a licensed condition. Any of these promises cannot
23 override the Congressional law covering these licenses.
24 No review during license amendment. No review during
25 condition revocation. Those are built into the law

1 which supercedes any agreement and any conditions we put
2 on the license. So if this is truly about scoping and
3 if those are truly legal options for the future and
4 these port licenses go on forever, then those must be
5 included in the review.

6 Second, if Liberty had taken their needs
7 assessment and waited one week for more data, their
8 import projections would not have overstated the
9 condition of the current market by 471 percent. That's
10 a huge number to be off by. So the needs for this must
11 be reevaluated. If there's no need, then their
12 socioeconomic conclusions, their export conclusions,
13 their import conclusions, all of their statements that
14 this marketplace somehow wants imports even though no
15 one else in the country does, they need to be
16 reevaluated.

17 Finally, on this point, please follow the
18 money. Liberty has made up a lot of information in this
19 and unlike things that had to do with say whales and
20 endangered species where every impact to every single
21 fish can be articulated clearly in this assessment,
22 Liberty is allowed to make up data on jobs and how many
23 millions of dollars that's going to bring to the
24 community. So if this review takes into account
25 specifics on everything else for the environment, for

1 the industry, for coastlines, for development, for
2 safety and security, all of the economies of the shore,
3 they should be required to take the same specificity and
4 apply it to their projections. Again, they say only six
5 to ten jobs would be created by this over the long haul.
6 And I need these agencies in this review to tell me why
7 six to ten long-term jobs override the absolute
8 legitimate existing and real interest of 600,000.
9 Because I have three minutes to speak and I believe I
10 only have about 20 seconds left. I want to have
11 everyone in here cheer and join me in saying please, do
12 not have this project. I got 15 more seconds.

13 (Applause)

14 MS. MATHER: Well, I'm sorry, but I'm going
15 to stop you from doing that. This is not the point. I
16 need to remind you, please, that this is a public
17 hearing. It is not a rally. There are other
18 opportunities for rallies. And if this public hearing
19 cannot proceed, then it will not proceed.

20 A VOICE: We don't need the lecture.

21 MS. MATHER: Please, I am merely restating
22 the comments. I'd like to now get Robert -- I think
23 Robert, you're right there?

24 MR. REMM: Yes.

25 MS. MATHER: And after Robert will be Derek

1 Pope. Go ahead, Robert.

2 MR. REMM: My name is Robert Remm, R-e-m-m.
3 I'm older than many of you, maybe even most of you. I
4 was here for -- well, first, the first gallon of gas
5 that I bought was 25 cents, for my car. I was here when
6 OPEC came into creation for the first oil shortage. I
7 was here when there was a wholesale rush from oil to
8 natural gas and a moratorium was placed on the
9 availability of natural gas. I was in the HVAC business
10 at the time and I've witnessed the necessity for a
11 second stream of alternate fuel to oil and to natural
12 gas. I got into the air conditioning and heating
13 business, into the solar red tag and wind energy
14 business and have been a proponent for it for that many
15 years. But I also am cognizant of the fact that solar
16 and wind energy and solar alpacas and any other form of
17 alternate energy that we currently have cannot possibly
18 meet the demand for energy that we have now. All you
19 have to do is take a look at the number of cars crossing
20 the Driscoll Bridge at rush hour just to get a concept
21 of how much energy that we need. I also know that
22 natural gas, the role of the basket of fuels that are
23 available, fossil fuels that are available currently is
24 the only one that's really environmentally and
25 acceptable to our needs in the interim between now and

1 when we are a nation that's capable of producing our
2 energy in the volumes necessary by alternate means of
3 energy production. That being the case, I believe that
4 it is necessary to have a means of transporting that
5 fuel here to the eastern seaboard, to prevent having
6 another one of those moratoriums. I believe that of all
7 of the means necessary to do that, whether it be over
8 land and transportation or new pipelines or what have
9 you, I believe the one with the least impact on the
10 environment is probably this port. Having sons working
11 in the oil industry, daughter-in-law is working at Corps
12 of Engineers servicing ships in the petroleum and in the
13 natural gas transportation industry, I believe it's a
14 safe industry. I believe that much of the rhetoric that
15 we hear -- I call it rhetoric, most of you people take
16 it to heart that it really means something. It's very
17 important to your future and your safety and your
18 concerns, but I believe that they are for the most part,
19 unfounded. I'm sorry, I have a different opinion than
20 most of the people in this room. I support the project,
21 the port.

22 MS. MATHER: Thank you, sir. Derek Pope and
23 after Derek is Don Weinshenker, I think. In the
24 meantime, Derek, you're on.

25 MR. POPE: Hi. Thank you for taking my

1 comments. My wife and I are from Long Island, New York.
2 We couldn't make it last night, but we feel so strongly
3 about this that we wanted to come out here. And from
4 researching this a little bit, it seems that at best,
5 this is just not necessary. You know, how would
6 inputting, importing natural gas and assuming that that
7 really is the purpose of this pipeline, how does that
8 contribute to our goal of energy independence? It just
9 doesn't make sense to me. But at worst and what I think
10 this really, really is, if we look at one of the --
11 number three under requirements for the issuance of this
12 license, was that it fits with our national interest and
13 that's consistent with our natural policy goals and
14 objectives. And so what I'm wondering is how anything
15 that pushes us closer to nonrenewable dirty energy
16 sources, brings us anywhere closer to something that's
17 in our national interest. And if we really do care, if
18 we're looking for a true alternative, if we are
19 considering the alternatives, I think the alternatives
20 has to be something that moves us away from this,
21 something like wind or geothermal and solar. And the
22 way I see it, the only real problems with those,
23 especially solar and geothermal, for example, is that
24 then you have people owning the means of producing their
25 own energy as opposed to a few corporations owning them.

1 And if we really care about our national security and
2 national interest, that's what we should fight for. My
3 wife and I are both teachers. We're part of a union.
4 We care about jobs and we care about workers' rights.
5 And if we think about long-term, imagine all the jobs
6 created if we switched to an infrastructure powered by
7 renewable energy and how that would be good for all of
8 us. So I oppose this project. Thank you.

9 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Don, and then after
10 Don is Louise. So Don is getting himself up there. And
11 Don, then if you could spell your last name.

12 MR. WEINSHENKER: It's actually Dan and it's
13 W-e-i-n-s-h-e-n-k-e-r. Once again, my name is Dan and
14 I'm from Food & Water Watch. Thank you for this hearing
15 and for the opportunity to speak and comment today about
16 Liberty Natural Gas' latest proposal to build a
17 deepwater liquified natural gas import/export facility
18 off the coast of New York and New Jersey. Of course
19 just two years ago, Governor Christie rejected a nearly
20 identical proposal. We supported those decisions then
21 and we expect that he won't be persuaded by the current
22 application. I'm here today on behalf of Food & Water
23 Watch's members and activists across this state to urge
24 you to fully consider the consequences of licensing this
25 project in your scoping process. We maintain that if

1 you do, you will recommend that no action -- that there
2 will be no action and reject the application. We urge
3 you not only to address negative impacts on the marine's
4 ecosystems and on the future of offshore wind energy
5 production, but to also include the negative impacts
6 that licensing exports from this facility will have on
7 communities across the northeast. Exports would spur
8 more drilling in the hydraulic fracture, more fracking,
9 more quickly resulting in even more destructive economic
10 bust once the gas is gone and the industry moves on. We
11 are aware that Liberty's intent is just to use the
12 facility for imports, but there's no reason to believe
13 that market forces won't leave them to revisit this
14 intent. First, current law as recently amended makes
15 clear the request of deepwater port license would also
16 allow for exports. Second, exports are an essential
17 part of the oil and gas industry's effort to create new
18 sources for demands for unconventional natural gas or
19 shale gas. Put simply, the drilling and fracking
20 industry needs natural gas prices to rise. Current
21 domestic prices barely make it profitable for them to
22 drill and frack for shale gas, given the high capital,
23 deep horizontal drilling and the high volume multistage
24 fracking. Natural gas prices in Europe and Asia are a
25 different story. And the U.S. Department of Energy has

1 seen a flurry of new applications from companies seeking
2 authority to export natural gas. Current applications
3 would amount to an export capacity equivalent to over 40
4 percent of U.S. consumption. There's every reason to
5 believe that Liberty's Port Ambrose project, once
6 licensed, would join this frenzy. Accelerated drilling
7 and fracking to fulfill export contracts, will only
8 intensify the negative impacts from communities that sit
9 above Marcellas Shale and fracking can be expected to
10 strike to the Utica which also lies beneath New York
11 into the Newark basins beneath much of New Jersey. The
12 risks to our health, communities and environment from
13 fracking include truckloads of toxic and radioactive
14 waste that can contaminate watersheds and poison
15 underground drinking water supplies. Hazardous air
16 pollutants including carcinogens and neurotoxins spread
17 into the air, endangering communities and putting our
18 farms and food at risk, and massive amounts of methane,
19 a major cause of climate change dumps into the
20 atmosphere. You may be tempted to dismiss these
21 concerns by saying this project isn't intended for
22 export or by saying that the potential capacity for
23 export wouldn't be large enough to have a significant
24 impact.

25 MS. MATHER: Thank you very much.

1 (Applause)

2 MS. MATHER: Louise? I thought that might
3 be why you were kind of moving up. And Margo Pellegrino
4 will be after you.

5 MS. USECHAK: Thank you. My name is Louise
6 Usechak and I'm speaking on behalf of the League of
7 Women Voters of New Jersey. The league is a
8 non-partisan, non-profit organization and it's long held
9 the position supporting clean air, clean water and
10 protection of natural resources. It is in pursuit of
11 these goals that we oppose the application for Liberty
12 Natural Gas' Port Ambrose, a liquified natural gas off
13 of the New Jersey, New York coast. This is the same
14 application Liberty Natural Gas put forward in 2010
15 which we opposed and which Governor Christie vetoed in
16 2011. Liberty has only moved its location. However,
17 since the deepwater port act was amended December 2012,
18 any license approved now will allow an LNG facility to
19 import, export or change the one use together over its
20 lifetime. Therefore, the Environmental Impact Statement
21 for this application needs to take into account all the
22 direct and indirect impacts that could result from this
23 facility's use over its lifetime. Air pollution and
24 global climate change come primarily from the use of
25 fossil fuels. The League strongly supports efforts to

1 move to renewable energy so that we can reduce
2 greenhouse gas emissions. Port Ambrose would be in
3 direct conflict with the proposal to build a wind farm
4 in the area. This project poses a security risk,
5 shipping lane (inaudible) by the east coast, the port of
6 New York and New Jersey and would create a slow down in
7 cumberstring (sic) in the 9-to-12-month construction
8 phase. A one-mile exclusion zone around the proposed
9 terminal will be required when ships are in port as well
10 as when they are entering or leaving it. The
11 construction and operation of this port potentially
12 threatens -- will impact the commercial and recreational
13 fishing industries and potentially threatening marine
14 life as many fish species are migratory. Superstorm
15 Sandy has shown us that the waves in the area can be
16 lethal and the EIS should evaluate the impact of future
17 storms of this magnitude. We are extremely disappointed
18 in the Maritime Administration and the Coast Guard for
19 not providing the citizens of New York and New Jersey a
20 fair and reasonable opportunity to evaluate the 1,500
21 pages of this project application that have been made
22 available to the public. The Federal Register notice of
23 these hearings was released on June 24th, less than
24 three weeks ago. The residents of our state need more
25 time to evaluate this application. We strongly urge the

1 Maritime Administration and the Coast Guard to hold
2 additional scoping hearings in affected areas, including
3 the New Jersey coast and upstream communities where
4 natural gases drill. We also request an independent
5 environmental impact assessment and an extension in the
6 public comment period to 120 days. Thank you.

7 MS. MATHER: Thank you.

8 (Applause)

9 MS. MATHER: Margo is where? Margo is on
10 her way and then Heather is after that person.

11 MS. PELLEGRINO: Hi, aloha. I'm Margo
12 Pellegrino and I'm a coastal paddler. And this actually
13 wasn't what I started out to say because I was going to
14 say other things, but really on the face of it, having
15 paddled the east coast Miami to Maine and Seattle to San
16 Diego and a little above Miami to New Orleans, I can
17 tell you that the New York waterways are probably the
18 busiest consistently in the country. You don't need the
19 MARCO planning tool MidAtlantic Regional Council
20 Nation -- look it up -- to tell you that holy mackerel,
21 just looking at boat traffic and submarine cables and et
22 cetera, et cetera, this is a disaster waiting to happen.
23 I also paddled in the Chesapeake and I paddled by an LNG
24 terminal. And the marine police had their hands full
25 just keeping recreational fishermen out of what I call

1 the playground, you know, that area you're not allowed
2 to go or they confiscate your boat if you happen to go
3 in there more than two times? Yes, they have little
4 cameras and they will confiscate your boat, so I was
5 told by the recreational fishermen. On its face that's
6 a disaster, just in such a highly, highly populated
7 area. This New York/New Jersey bight, we are not a
8 sacrificial lamb for the east coast. We do not want to
9 be like the Gulf of Mexico. We are sorry for the people
10 in the Gulf of Mexico, but we do not want to be like
11 them. We want to protect what we have. This project is
12 really symbolic. You can't really call it a line in the
13 sand because we're talking about the water in the ocean.
14 You guys have the opportunity to do for the country and
15 to make a comment and take a stand against what we know
16 is a really bad, bad idea. Import from unstable
17 third-world countries? Of course you're going to be
18 exporting. We already see what's happening in the
19 middle east. We're trying to extricate ourselves from
20 wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and I believe there were
21 pipelines talked about into Afghanistan. It's nuts. At
22 some point we have to say that yes, we need
23 alternatives. We need sustainable energy. The jobs are
24 actually there. When we had the gas crisis and gas went
25 up to \$4 a gallon, people cut their usage for gas by 14

1 percent. Habit alone, they didn't go suddenly getting
2 Priuses. Yes, it's a little bit of hard work, but we
3 can totally do it and there are plenty of jobs. When
4 you talk about fuel efficiency, conservation and all of
5 the new developments in alternative and sustainable
6 energies, please help us. If Congress doesn't have the
7 guts to do it, you guys please do find some intestinal
8 fortitude to do what is right. Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 MS. MATHER: Thank you. The next person is
11 -- I can't even call people if they can't hear, all
12 right? Heather and then I believe Ernest Docs would be
13 after you.

14 MS. SAFFERT: My name is Heather Saffert.
15 I'm a staff scientist with Clean Ocean Action. My PhD.
16 is in oceanography. Liberty says they will import gas.
17 The facts say they will export gas, yet none of the
18 environmental impacts from the energy intensive
19 liquification process have been included in the
20 application. As you know, once built, this facility
21 could be converted to an export facility. The air,
22 noise and water pollution impacts and more, must be
23 considered now. Liberty says that the project will have
24 no effect or no likely adverse affects on endangered
25 whales. The facts say the whales are negatively

1 impacted. Several of these endangered species occur
2 regularly in the New York bight, including the North
3 Atlantic right whale, fin whales, humpback whales and
4 even blue whales have been found to be seen at Fire
5 Island in New York. According to government reviewers
6 of the application, detailed current and correct
7 assessments of endangered and threatened species still
8 need to be done. Liberty says that additional tanker
9 traffic is likely to result in only a small increase in
10 the risk of vessel strikes to marine mammals and sea
11 turtles. The facts say these endangered and threatening
12 animals are to be subject to multiple stresses. There
13 are only about 300 to 350 North Atlantic right whales
14 left. So even a few strikes can have large impacts on
15 the population. Government reviewers, they say that
16 risk of ship strikes has not been properly evaluated.
17 Liberty says that noise impacts will be negligible given
18 background noise levels. Government reviewers say that
19 no supporting data was noted to verify Liberty's
20 conclusion. Sound is essential for marine life to
21 thrive. Liberty does not assess noise impacts to
22 plankton or fish and has inaccurately assessed impacts
23 to marine mammals. Site specific analysis is still
24 needed. Liberty says that air pollution will have
25 negligible impacts within the port region, but does

1 acknowledge that they are going to exceed the standard
2 for nitrogen emissions. Government reviewers say that
3 not all emission data and modeling have been included
4 yet. Based on the data that has been provided for
5 importing tankers, there will be over 100 tons of
6 pollution, pollutants including smog forming chemicals,
7 particulates, hazardous toxins and greenhouse gases that
8 will be emitted every year from this facility that
9 produces no usable energy. Liberty says that no tanker
10 discharges of the port during normal operation. The
11 facts say if exports do occur, millions of gallons of
12 ballast water will be discharged as liquified gas is
13 loaded. Government reviewers again say the data used
14 for analysis are taken from an environment that is not
15 representative of the condition and habitat found at the
16 site. I could go on and on, but I'm going to stop now
17 and say that the facts show that this project is
18 damaging to our communities.

19 MS. MATHER: Thank you very much.

20 MS. SAFFERT: The Liberty --

21 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Ernest Docs and
22 after Ernest is David, I believe it's Doll, but David.
23 Ernest.

24 MR. DOCS: Yes, I think it's pathetic that
25 there's only one page of information and supposedly the

1 application was over 1,500 pages to the Coast Guard.
2 I'm very disappointed that the Coast Guard is sponsoring
3 this project. And also I'd like to mention that the gas
4 and oil industry has a very bad history of worker
5 safety. And I'm very disappointed that the union is
6 supporting this when there's been a big gas explosion
7 here in Edison. There was a gas explosion with the
8 Williams pipeline in this area within the last few
9 months and I would just like to know why we can't get
10 anymore information around why there's no information on
11 the Liberty company. And also it seems that our
12 representatives do not support it. Governor Christie
13 does not support this project, so I don't know why the
14 Coast Guard is pushing this project to be done in the
15 coast of New Jersey. And anybody could go on the
16 internet and get 500 pages on the Coast Guard
17 regulations, but I didn't come to this meeting to get
18 Coast Guard regulations. I want some information on
19 this project, which is not in that room over there, or
20 hardly any information is in that room. I would just
21 like to say that I think more information should be
22 available to the public and 30 days is hardly enough
23 time when the Liberty company probably had many years to
24 submit information to the US Coast Guard. Thank you.

25 MS. MATHER: Thank you. David Doll and then

1 after David is Larraine Saver. David.

2 MR. DOLL: Thank you for having me here.
3 Where do we start? Like Leonardo Davinci said, if you
4 look at the big picture you connect all the dots. Our
5 bodies are 75 percent water. Water is the most
6 important resource on this planet, bar none. Without
7 clean, clear drinking water, we have nothing. We have
8 nothing to live on and it's the source of our life.
9 Having said that, I live in Brooklyn and it took an act
10 of Congress to make Gateway National Recreation area
11 which is where Congress wants to allow a pipeline to
12 come through Reese Park which is our beach. They want
13 to put an industrial area into a national recreation
14 area. So we have some issues with that. I don't know
15 where we're supposed to go after that. I can't afford
16 to go to the Hamptons or to the Jersey shore. And after
17 Superstorm Sandy, I think we all understand that there
18 is climate change, that it's not just -- people are
19 still saying, "Well, the weather is a little bit off,"
20 but the weather is not just a little bit off. Things
21 are not right. It's not the way it was. I'm 56 years
22 old and I can notice the difference in my lifetime. And
23 it's funny, I remember as a kid they said 50 years ago
24 they said, someday solar energy and all of this stuff is
25 going to be viable, but not now. So now it's 50 years

1 later and they're still saying, someday we're going to
2 get there, like over the rainbow. It's here, the
3 technology is here now. It's been proven. They're
4 doing in it in Spain, in Germany, in other countries
5 over in Europe. The oil industry has a strangle hold on
6 our economy and on our lives. They're killing us.
7 Cancer is through the roof in this country. Let's start
8 connecting all the dots on what's going on. The guys
9 who did the drilling and the fracking out in
10 Pennsylvania will not drink the water that came out of
11 Craig Stevens well, but they said it's safe. People are
12 getting sick from California, Colorado, Pennsylvania and
13 the industry is so powerful that it has gag orders
14 against doctors, that they're not allowed to speak out
15 against this. This is not the kind of democracy I would
16 like to live in. You guys, I can't believe that you
17 guys may be the arbiters to decide whether or not we're
18 going to have a clean planet or not. And I hope to God
19 that you will do the right thing for yourselves and for
20 your children and for anybody else that you care and
21 love. We only have one planet. There's no planet B and
22 we have to take care of this place.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. MATHER: Larraine is coming up and then
25 Rachel Davis, but Larraine.

1 MS. SAUER: My name is Larraine Sauer, and
2 I'm a senior citizen from Bergen County, an outraged
3 senior citizen, and my belief is that the residents of
4 this state cannot allow the fossil fuel industry to
5 contaminate our beaches, our land and the mighty
6 Atlantic. We need and we want clean energy. As
7 taxpayers, we're tired of subsidizing dirty fossil
8 fuels. It's time to start developing clean energy on a
9 massive scale. In New Jersey, the electricity in our
10 homes can now be powered by wind energy through a
11 third-party supplier. If anyone is interested in
12 converting their homes, call 888-444-9452. We want
13 clean energy for future generations. We want our legacy
14 to be clean energy, not the destruction of our precious
15 resources. Thank you.

16 (Applause)

17 MS. MATHER: After Rachel is Lindsay
18 McNamara.

19 MS. DAVIS: Thank you. My name is Rachel
20 Dawn Davis. I live in Manalapan, New Jersey where I sit
21 on the Manalapan Environmental Commission and I am
22 connected to every environmental commission in New
23 Jersey, and well as environmental commissions in the
24 state that this project touches and affects directly as
25 well as across the country. I am also the co-founder of

1 the Mother's Project for Sustainable Energy here in New
2 Jersey and again, nationally and globally. And I'm here
3 spending time as a new mother away from my young family
4 to state my extreme opposition to this project. And I'm
5 here. Of course, I could have submitted a comment on a
6 website, but I wanted you to look into my eyes and see
7 my face and hear my voice, and understand that this is
8 unacceptable. This nightmarish future that I'm spending
9 my time talking to you about is ludicrous. Mr. Keith --
10 I can't see your last name -- you talked about financial
11 responsibility in your opening letter. And frankly,
12 that financial responsibility that the company literally
13 would be subject to, that is not adequate. There's no
14 amount of money that you can throw at a problem when it
15 potentially happens. We know this from significant
16 cases of evidence where communities have been devastated
17 by natural gas infrastructure, all sorts of types and
18 we're seeing this here in New Jersey in Roseland with
19 this compressure station that's been re-erected. People
20 are experiencing issues of nausea, dizziness and this is
21 just one project. This is one type of project. You
22 know, we frankly cannot drink money. We cannot eat
23 money, we cannot breathe money whether it's in dollars,
24 pounds, yens, what have you. And I wanted to share, I'd
25 much rather spend my time, which is quite limited as I'm

1 sure you can imagine, I have a one-year-old -- talking
2 about the economic and social benefits. Nowhere does
3 this project talk about the social costs which are
4 absolutely real and perhaps quantifiable, but again, not
5 because you cannot quantify the amounts of cancer,
6 leukemia, asthma, et cetera. You cannot put a price on
7 my child's health. So, again, the rhetoric that this
8 natural gas is a necessary bridge fuel to the future, to
9 our economic security, this is just that, rhetoric.
10 It's not something that my generation as we continue to
11 build young families, will stand for at all. And it's
12 something where we will get rid of these types of
13 proposals going forward. And apparently we have to deal
14 with this still right now, but it will come to an end.
15 Again, I urge you and echo other folks -- we talked
16 about this before -- to focus on the fact that this
17 company is talking about a little bit of profit for a
18 little bit of people and I really want you to understand
19 that the time that you should be spending and the
20 subject that we should be talking about is a livable,
21 sustainable future for my family, your family and so
22 many others throughout our country. Thanks.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. MATHER: Thank you. I think it's
25 Lindsay and Macailagh will be after Lindsay. And

1 Lindsay, you're on your way up.

2 MS. McNAMARA: Hello, my name is Lindsay
3 McNamara from Clean Ocean Action. Thank you for the
4 opportunity to speak on this important issue. I have
5 six points to make about the Liberty Natural Gas
6 project, Port Ambrose. First, Clean Ocean Action shares
7 a number of worries that the Bureau of Ocean Energy
8 Management has with this project. One was concerned
9 with the proximity of Port Ambrose to a proposed wind
10 tower project. There is no doubt that large ships move
11 in and out of the area and that safety measures are
12 necessary to ensure that the risk of ships colliding is
13 minimized. Liberty's statement that the LNG port would
14 only have a minimal effect on the proposed wind facility
15 needs to be given further consideration, especially
16 since the LNG tankers that would be traversing the area
17 are as long as the Empire State Building is tall.
18 Second, means of proposed pipeline location for Port
19 Ambrose is a fault line. The New York bight has seen
20 earthquakes on the Richter Scale of 4.5 and above and
21 experienced several thousand shocks a year. Liberty
22 says that no seismic activity has taken place recently,
23 and therefore the region is at minimal risk. Just
24 because there hasn't been an earthquake recently,
25 doesn't mean that there will not be one in the future.

1 Let's look at recent climate trends. Who expected a
2 superstorm like Sandy? Just over the past few weeks,
3 there have been disaster declarations for eight counties
4 in New York to have planned for these natural disasters
5 in the future and take them into consideration for new
6 energy projects. Third, in the last week a fracking
7 site exploded in West Virginia, injuring seven people.
8 Just yesterday, a four mile wide natural gas leak in the
9 Gulf of Mexico occurred while the company was attempting
10 to permanently plug the well. Bottom line, is that
11 natural gas is dangerous. Fourth, according to the DOE
12 safety study from 2012, if Port Ambrose were to
13 experience a breach in spill, as much as 40 percent of
14 the LNG spill from the vessel's cargo tank is likely to
15 remain in a vessel structure, leading to expensive
16 cryogenic fracturing and damage to the LNG vessel
17 structural steel, quote, "causing the vessel to be
18 disabled, severely damaged and at the risk of sinking."
19 Fifth, in the same study, the DOE found that if the LNG
20 port were to breach, the vessel would not be able to
21 move to safe anchorage and require a long time to
22 monitor, inspect and assess the damage, all while
23 potentially on fire, creating an extremely crowded firey
24 ocean with lot of shipping lanes. Six, from Governor
25 Christie's veto, the Liberty project would also present

1 significant security risks to our state through
2 increased demand on the US Coast Guard and our state
3 Homeland Security personnel and first responders. The
4 Liberty project would, quote, "create a heightened risk
5 in a densely developed region including potential
6 accidents or sabotage, disrupting commerce in the Port
7 of New York and New Jersey. In conclusion, Liberty
8 Natural Gas Port Ambrose is an extremely dangerous
9 proposal because of its interference with proposed wind
10 turbines, the risk of massive storms like Sandy, the
11 potential for a sinking pool fire in the middle of
12 shipping lanes near the largest port on the east coast
13 and the burden it could bring to our first responders
14 and the risk it brings to our communities. Thank you.

15 (Applause)

16 MS. MATHER: I believe it's not Mr. McCue,
17 excuse me, and then after her is Glenn Arthur I think it
18 is, but go ahead.

19 MS. McCUE: Hi, my name is Macailagh McCue
20 and I'm here with Clean Ocean Action. It is
21 disingenuous for Liberty and the Maritime administration
22 to say that this proposal is anything other than the
23 exact same project that Governor Christie vetoed 16
24 months ago. He said, and I quote, "This project would
25 present unacceptable and substantial risks in state's

1 residents, natural resources, economy and security."
2 One week after he said no, Liberty amended their
3 application and formally asked the Governor if his veto
4 was still applicable. They were told by the Attorney
5 General that Governor Christie's veto remained in effect
6 as to both the original and revised application. This
7 project will have the exact same impact, just making it
8 the exact same bad idea. While these concerns are still
9 with us, it is even more urgent for this project to be
10 denied today. With the coastal devastation that
11 occurred from Sandy, the recovery efforts that are still
12 underway and the market switch to favoring export
13 facilities, it is imperative that this project be
14 stopped. Not only is this the same proposal, it could
15 easily become an export facility. You say that you are
16 going to condition the license, but according to Section
17 4E1, the secretary shall amend or rescind any condition
18 that is no longer necessary. If it's no longer needed
19 for imports, this will be allowed for exports. Thank
20 you.

21 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Mr. Arthur and then
22 after you is Linda Reik, I believe. Go ahead, sir.

23 MR. ARTHUR: Good evening. Glenn Arthur.
24 I'm chairman of the New Jersey Council of Diving Clubs,
25 a non-profit corporation incorporated in 1956. I

1 represent the scuba divers in the New York blight area
2 from New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York. We are all
3 volunteer sport divers and we are very concerned with
4 what goes on in the ocean. We actually see what goes on
5 in the bottom, on the sand with the fish and the
6 crustacean and the shellfish that are out there. One of
7 the things we are concerned with are the safety and the
8 security zones that will be around these turfs, how much
9 of that will restrict our sport, as well as the safety
10 and security zones around the incoming and its outgoing
11 ships, which if I go by what was published by another
12 proposal in Long Island Sound, would be two nautical
13 miles in front of the ship, one nautical mile behind it
14 and .37 nautical miles on both sides. It takes about 18
15 minutes for a ship at 10 knots to go past. We're
16 concerned that in our areas where we are diving, this
17 item is going to be in those areas. And are these ships
18 that are also going to be in those areas, are they going
19 to abide by the international and federal laws on the
20 output and the divers' down flags? These ships don't
21 move very fast, I understand that, but how can they
22 maneuver if there is a dive boat with divers in the
23 water in front of them? That's one of our concerns.

24 As a private citizen, I have been on the
25 internet lately and I have right on my phone right now,

1 a document that shows 27 applications of existing
2 deepwater ports and land based LNG terminals. Of the 27
3 applications, as of May 17th this year for exporting, 23
4 have been approved for fair trade agreement states,
5 which means any international state that has agreed with
6 a fair trade act, fair trade agreement, these facilities
7 are already okayed for exporting. Of those 27 that
8 apply for nations outside the FTA, two so far have only
9 been approved. Now how hard is it for this turret that
10 is going to be placed if it is placed, how hard is it
11 going to be to have a ship that liquifies come in,
12 hookup to it and export the fuel? I don't see anything
13 -- like you say, they are only applying for imports, but
14 I understand physically the only change would be to have
15 a liquification ship come in.

16 MR. LESNICK: If would you like to talk
17 about it, I'll talk about it.

18 MR. ARTHUR: That would be great. Thank you
19 very much. Like I said, as divers, we're concerned
20 about access to the places that we already are diving
21 and the hazards that will come about if these ships come
22 in. Thank you.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. MATHER: Thank you. After Linda is
25 Martin Donohue and Linda is coming forward.

1 MS. REIK: Hi, I'm Linda Reik from Sullivan
2 County, New York. The problem with this project is that
3 it is cited right where the Rockaway Wind Farm is also
4 proposed. There couldn't be a more stark or obvious
5 choice for New York's energy future than this choice.
6 Wind power on one hand or more gas on the other? Steel
7 workers building pipelines or steel workers building
8 turbines? Laying on the beach, looking out to sea and
9 feeling good about the green energy on the horizon or
10 laying on the beach and wondering what exactly you're
11 inhaling? It is known that LNG tanker ships off gas
12 24/7 sending heat trapping methane gas straight into our
13 atmosphere. Most of us know by now that uncaptured
14 methane released by the gas industry into the atmosphere
15 is 100 times more heat trapping than carbon dioxide in
16 the first 20 years after emission and 30 times more heat
17 trapping than carbon dioxide at 100 years after
18 emission. Therefore, the gas industry's inability to
19 contain methane emissions is a significant cause of
20 global warming. Let's look at the alternative, a wind
21 farm. It's a much better choice for this location and
22 for the energy future of our nation. I will tell you
23 about a 2013 publication, peer reviewed, original
24 scientific publication in the journal Energy Policy
25 volume 57, pages 585 to 601. The title is, Examining

1 the Feasibility of Converting New York State's All
2 Purpose Energy Infrastructure to One Using Wind, Water
3 and Sunlight. The first author is Dr. Mark Z. Jacobson,
4 a civil environmental engineer from Stanford University
5 in California. The publication presents a fully
6 developed plan, including technical and economic details
7 to convert New York State's energy infrastructure in all
8 sectors to one powered by wind, water and sunlight by
9 2030. This plan can be a model for other states. Gas
10 was excluded as an energy source because it's a greater
11 threat to the environment and health than all wind,
12 water and solar technologies. In this plan, wind power
13 is the source for 50 percent of the electricity to be
14 generated. The remaining sources of energy are solar,
15 geothermal, wave, tidal and hydroelectric. The
16 conversion would reduce New York State's power demand by
17 37 percent because electric power is more efficient than
18 burning fossil fuels. It will stabilize energy prices
19 because fuel costs would be zero. It would create more
20 jobs than lost because nearly all New York State energy
21 would be produced in New York state. New York State air
22 pollution mortality and its costs would decline, saving
23 money equivalent to 3 percent of the gross domestic
24 product. The wind power component of this plan is 50
25 percent of all the power, with 40 percent coming from

1 offshore wind. The 10 percent onshore wind would only
2 take up 1-and-a-half percent of land.

3 MS. MATHER: Thank you, thank you.

4 MS. REIK: You need to go to this plan
5 immediately and I ask you to compare it to LNG.

6 MS. MATHER: Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Next is Martin
9 Donohue and after Martin is Matt Smith. Martin.

10 MR. DONOHUE: Thank you. Martin Donohue,
11 D-o-n-o-h-u-e, here as a private citizen. My experience
12 has been with facilities that have boilers that have
13 interlockable gas supply. I think what people don't
14 often times realize is in the winter, you cannot bring
15 enough gas into this area. They interrupt larger
16 boilers so that homeowners can continue to have their
17 gas. And what happens is these larger boilers then burn
18 dirtier fuels. So sometimes you look for something and
19 you don't realize what the other downsides to it are.

20 The other thing is I think a lot of other
21 places in the world don't have the same facilities for
22 compressing natural gas and if they have an outlet to
23 sell that gas, they won't flare it. So a lot -- there's
24 many places in the world that they are not capturing it.
25 It's just cheaper and easier to flare it, but if there

1 were outlets for it, they would do it here. So often
2 times what looks like the right thing, isn't the right
3 thing and I'd like this to be considered in the
4 application.

5 One other issue I'd like to just touch on, I
6 would like that in the application they use quantitative
7 risk assessment to determine some of these risks.
8 Because I believe people look at things and don't
9 recognize the risks that they take in their life, but
10 expect a much higher level from some other -- from other
11 people, from projects. I have some experience with
12 mechanical integrity, pipelines, things of that nature
13 and I believe that if it's done appropriately, it's done
14 according to ASTM, ANSI standards, et cetera, et cetera,
15 and those standards are pretty advanced and a lot of
16 this has been done in other places, I believe that it
17 can be done safely. So I just ask that you include that
18 in your assessment and also include some of the
19 potential savings that people may not fair it out with
20 that, okay? Thank you very much.

21 MS. MATHER: After Matt Smith who is on his
22 way, is Cynthia Pierson.

23 MR. SMITH: Good evening. My name is Matt
24 Smith. I'm here today representing 4050 New Jersey,
25 it's part of 350.org which is a global grass roots

1 movement to address the climate crisis. And I'm urging
2 that the Coast Guard consider the climate impacts of
3 Port Ambrose which represents a massive new investment
4 in fossil fuel infrastructure. Despite the fact that it
5 doesn't take a Ph.D. in economics to realize that the
6 potential exists for exporting this gas, I think that's
7 pretty clear. And folks have made that case. But as it
8 was mentioned before, natural gas is a significant
9 contributor in climate change both in the form of carbon
10 dioxide as well as methane gas. And the US government
11 reported in 2012 that flooding from future storms will
12 worsen as global sea levels rise by up to 6-and-a-half
13 feet by the end of the century. And just to quote some
14 pretty conservative agencies, this is a quote from the
15 International Emergency Agency, "If we don't radically
16 overhaul our energy supply moving away from fossil fuels
17 by 2017, the door will be closed forever and dangerous
18 climate change will be inevitable." And that's just
19 five years away. The US pentagon calls climate change
20 the greatest threat long-term to US domestic security.
21 The World Bank predicts that we'll see 200 million
22 climate refugees by 2030 and two degrees celsius warming
23 which we're on pace for now for within 20 to 30 years
24 would cause wide spread food shortages, unprecedented
25 heat waves and more intense extreme weather events.

1 People live in U.S. coastal areas are at risk of being
2 flooded from climate change. And we don't have to --
3 here in New Jersey, we don't have to look at these
4 reports. We know what climate change looks like. We
5 got a terrifying glimpse of it last year with Superstorm
6 Sandy and our coastal communities are still recovering
7 from that. So the idea that we would invest in a
8 massive new fossil fuel infrastructure project
9 continuing our dependence on fossil fuels when we're at
10 this critical crossroads and we have this short and ever
11 closing window to transfer completely away from fossil
12 fuels to clean, sustainable energy sources is I think
13 the definition of insanity. So thank you very much.

14 (Applause)

15 MS. MATHER: After Cynthia -- who is --
16 Cynthia is coming forward -- is Dana Patterson. Cynthia
17 first, okay.

18 MS. PIERSON: My name is Cynthia Pierson,
19 that's P-i-e-r-s-o-n from Cinnaminson, New Jersey. I'm
20 here on behalf of the Watch Dogs of the Watershed and
21 more importantly, as a lifelong resident of the Garden
22 State as a cancer survivor. New Jersey's aquifers and
23 groundwater have been under attack by industrial
24 contaminants for decades. I have with me a report by
25 the USGS and NJDEP from way back in 1985 entitled

1 Distrubution of Volatile Organic Compounds from the New
2 Jersey Costal Plain Aquifer System. It was published in
3 1985 by a .3 number 3 issue of groundwater. New
4 Jersey's water was already in trouble 38 years ago and
5 it hasn't gotten better since then. I don't understand
6 why anyone would willingly construct a facility that has
7 the potential of leaking lethal contaminants into the
8 ocean and risk further damage to the ocean and to the
9 areas of New Jersey and New York still recovering from
10 Hurricane Sandy. Does the BP disaster in the Gulf Coast
11 ring a bell? They say the facility will be for
12 importing gas only, however the US is producing more
13 natural gas than the domestic market can readily utilize
14 and the industry plans to export almost half of our gas
15 overseas, not to mention that there's the shale gas of
16 fracking which is another whole environmentally
17 nightmarish can of worms. So why do we need this
18 facility? Thank you.

19 MS. MATHER: After Dana is Daniel Axelrod.
20 So Dana, you're right there, right? Okay, go ahead.

21 MS. PATTERSON: Good evening, my name is
22 Dana Patterson. I'm the program supervisor for Edison
23 Wetlands Association. Our organization has been working
24 in New Jersey for over 20 years to clean up the toxic
25 waste legacy that has been left behind and working in

1 environmental justice communities to protect and clean
2 up these areas. New Jersey has its fair share of toxic
3 waste and chemical companies and we have over 114
4 superfund sites, the most in the country, and we also
5 have over 25,000 contaminated sites. We don't need our
6 ocean to be contaminated too. For this, Edison Wetlands
7 Association is opposed to the Port Ambrose facility.
8 This area is part of the North American flyaway. 500
9 bird species use this flyaway. 40 percent of those
10 species are conservation concerned species. That
11 includes the wood thrush, the piping plover and the red
12 knot, which all stop over in New Jersey under flight
13 from South America all the way to the Arctic. The red
14 knot specifically dines on our horseshoe crab eggs that
15 we have here on our Jersey shore beaches. So it's
16 really important that we protect those birds. There's
17 also five species of sea turtles and 20 species of
18 whales and dolphins that live in this area where they're
19 proposing the port. Nine endangered species have been
20 identified in that area. So this is a really important
21 area, ecologically sensitive that we need to continue to
22 protect. Our Jersey shore alone generates millions of
23 dollars for New Jersey in economic revenue just for
24 summer recreation. And actually, in Chris Christie's
25 veto letter he said, I quote, "New Jersey has invested

1 much time, energy and resources into encouraging
2 renewable energy, a commitment that has made New Jersey
3 a state -- made the state a national leader. This
4 project could stifle investment in renewable energy
5 technologies by increasing our reliance on foreign
6 sources which would undermine progress made by New
7 Jersey and this nation to promote sustainable energy."
8 End quote. This application is essentially the same as
9 the application that Governor Christie vetoed and we
10 hope that he vetoes it again. So I ask everyone today
11 to stand with Edison Wetlands and all the other
12 organizations and community members that are here and
13 reject Port Ambrose. Please turn down this project. We
14 do not need New Jersey to have any more toxic legacies
15 here. Thank you.

16 (Applause)

17 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Next if I may --
18 it's a little bit hard to call you, Daniel, when I can't
19 get a word in. So after Daniel comes Diane Beeny, I
20 believe. Daniel.

21 MR. AXELROD: Hi, my name is Daniel Axelrod.
22 I was an environmental and business economics major at
23 Rutgers University. My family owns and operates two
24 properties, one farm on Kingwood and one farm on Colts
25 Neck bordering the Atlantic and the Delaware. I'm going

1 into farming with the Delaware across the street. My
2 primary concern is of my family's welfare and the
3 welfare of the water lands. I'm concerned with the
4 proposal in part in exporting to other countries. As it
5 was mentioned earlier, it says that the proposal does
6 not include exporting into countries, rather importing
7 into our country, but my concern is the change of the
8 flipping of the switch in the future. I'm concerned of
9 the accuracy of the financial information and its
10 viability for the short term and for the long-term. I'm
11 a proud American, but I'm not proud of our continual
12 reliance on fossil fuels. We have the technology to
13 provide efficient and renewable energy. I am
14 flabbergasted that there is such a short period of time
15 to review for this proposal. My concern is not only
16 over the Port Ambrose, but over passively supporting the
17 industry as a whole. I'm afraid for my family and my
18 future children. I don't understand why we are
19 considering Port Ambrose when Chris Christie already
20 rejected a similar proposal two years ago. Please don't
21 jeopardize my future, my health and my viability in the
22 future.

23 (Applause.)

24 MS. MATHER: Thank you. After Diane comes
25 Tom, I believe. Diane, just spell your last name for

1 the court reporter.

2 MS. BEENY: It's B-e-e-n-y. I'm the chair of
3 the Union County Peace Council. I live in Westfield,
4 New Jersey. First thing when I hear the words "Coast
5 Guard," I think of a protection organization, not
6 something that's exploiting the coast. So if this
7 project goes forward, then they should have to change
8 their name because it would just be too ironic. I've
9 testified at hearings like this before. There was one
10 that Minerals Management Service had about off shore
11 drilling and I remember this one man, gentleman from a
12 group called Citizens for Prosperity. He was saying,
13 well, we shouldn't worry about the sea creatures because
14 they could all be relocated. If there's a whale in the
15 way, the whale would be relocated. And I'm thinking,
16 well, the logistics of relocating a whale and also where
17 are you going to put the whale if you could? So I mean,
18 it just doesn't add up. I mean, the one thing is that
19 resources are finite. The fact that they're finite does
20 not mean that we should be in a rush to liquidate,
21 exploit and use them up as soon as possible, and
22 especially things that are precious like water and air
23 and things that we all need to survive, all the
24 creatures and people on this planet need to survive. I
25 believe I'm very much a proponent of the precautionary

1 principle, don't do something if it might cause any
2 harm. It's similar to the hypocritical message, do no
3 harm. And it seems like there's a lot of unknowns in
4 this project. And instead of following the
5 precautionary principle, it seems like we want to on so
6 many things, we want to follow the books principle like
7 we shouldn't have done that, that was a big mess. I'm
8 hearing that, I mean, only a few days after the deep
9 port horizon disaster. I mean, the idea of drilling off
10 the Jersey shore at that point was like no way. And so,
11 I mean, you can't see in the future, but you can see
12 where if you build more reliance on fossil fuels, it's
13 just more of the same. We're just going to create more
14 global catechisms and more Sandys, Superstorm Sandys and
15 Katrinas. And instead of focusing on renewables and
16 focusing on the future and building that which is what
17 Europe is going towards, I mean, in China they're
18 selling us wind turbines and solar panels and meanwhile
19 they're still using the dirty coal in it, and their
20 fossil fuel energy which is distorted. I mean, their
21 air, if you can see it, I mean, they have areas of China
22 where they have to hand pollinate the trees because the
23 bees have all died off. Do we want that here? This is
24 what we're doing to our planet. And basically we focus
25 on wind and geothermal and solar with this reliance on

1 frack fuel and contaminants and pollutants and health
2 problems.

3 MS. MATHER: Thank you.

4 MS. BEENY: And when you have a spill of
5 solar energy, it's just suddenly -- that's all.

6 (Applause)

7 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Tom, after Tom is
8 Edith. Could you spell your last name?

9 MR. MAHEDY: M-a-h-e-d-y. It is a great
10 honor to be here today with people of great love, people
11 of great caring and people who are just so inspiring.
12 I'm just very, very moved. And I think that the CEO and
13 the president, Roger Wheeling was here earlier. Is he
14 still here? If he is, I would invite him to join us
15 because he is a brilliant man, but he's going in the
16 wrong direction. And we welcome you with a big hug.
17 And all of us have been on the wrong side at times in
18 our life and people caring, and love have helped to turn
19 us around and to go into the right direction. I also
20 will invite everybody up front and Roger, tomorrow to
21 Sea Bright, because there will be a great many people on
22 the Jersey shore who will be coming to Sea Bright to
23 speak and to give testimony. They could not make it up
24 here today. I also invite people to come on Friday to
25 the Pinelands where they are planning on building a

1 22-mile gas pipeline there as well. Information on
2 that, go to Ocean City Patch and the meeting tomorrow is
3 at 9:30 in the morning. So as we can see, there are
4 many salts. But we also know that when the people lead,
5 the leaders will follow. And here we have a puzzle here
6 because each person has a different piece of the puzzle.
7 And together we will lead into what folks call an
8 evolutionary catalyst, people who are thinking in a
9 broader way and people who are thinking globally.
10 People who are thinking of earth as mother, of earth
11 that gives us and sustains us. And what we're doing
12 with projects like that is it's no less than ecoside or
13 geoside. We are destroying the very essence of what we
14 need to survive. And we all know that's wrong and we
15 all know that you have to go in another direction. So I
16 invite you, all of you up front and I invite the Coast
17 Guard, I invite the police. There was a comment out
18 front early on that said okay, to those who are in favor
19 of this project, can we bring baseball bats in? I
20 thought that was horrible. And the police officer
21 laughed. We are not the enemy. We are here to help
22 you. We are here to guide you and to help you to do the
23 right thing, thank you.

24 (Applause)

25 MS. MATHER: Thank you. After Edith is

1 Jennifer. Edith, you're next. Could you spell your
2 last name?

3 MS. KANTROWITZ: Edith K-a-n-t-r-o-w-i-t-z.
4 Sorry if that was too loud, Edith. I work with a number
5 of environmental groups, United For Action, New York
6 City Friends of Clearwater, the Coalition Against the
7 Rockaway Pipeline, but I'm here tonight on behalf of
8 myself. And I came from Brooklyn and I went yesterday
9 to Long Beach because I feel very strongly about this.
10 And I'm really not going to say any of what I had
11 originally prepared because I think it's all been said
12 very eloquently by so many other speakers already. I
13 think that what I just want to point out is that what we
14 have here is an emergency situation. And I think we all
15 have to recognize that. I think some of us recognize
16 that and I'm not talking about the emergency situation
17 that would result if one of these LNG tankers blew up
18 either by accident or by a direct terrorist attack. I
19 mean, that would be an emergency situation that might
20 incinerate everything for a mile around, but what I'm
21 talking about is an emergency situation that is much
22 more severe than that. We are talking about the
23 emergency that this planet is in. And a number of
24 people have already referred to that, but we need to
25 wake up and we need to wake up quickly. We are already

1 over 400 parts per million. We have climate crisis upon
2 us. Superstorm Sandy is nothing compared to what we are
3 going to see. We are seeing disasters, storms, floods,
4 droughts, we are seeing these things not once a year,
5 but if we really open our eyes and see what's going on
6 all over the world, we're seeing that it's going on
7 every week and constantly. So why would we be using any
8 kind of fossil fuels at all? Why would we be using
9 methane that is such a strong accelerator of climate
10 change? People say that, well, renewables aren't there
11 yet. That's a lie. The only reason that renewables are
12 not already powering all our energy needs is because
13 there has not been the political will. There has not
14 been the corporate will to make that happen because the
15 profits don't seem to be as easy when they come from the
16 sun. When this country wanted to have Manhattan Project
17 to get an atom bomb, it happened very quickly. So if we
18 wanted to get our country on renewables, if we wanted to
19 get New Jersey, New York State on renewables, we could
20 do it very quickly. We've heard 2030, I think we can do
21 it even faster than that. So why do we need any of this
22 methane? Thank you.

23 MS. MATHER: Thank you.

24 MS. AXELROD: My name is Jennifer Axelrod.

25 MS. MATHER: I'm sorry, could you just wait

1 a second so I could get the next person to hear that I'm
2 calling them, which is Scott Winters. Jennifer, go
3 ahead.

4 MS. AXELROD: My name is Jennifer Axelrod.
5 I'm proud to be here with my sisters from the League of
6 Women Voters who are elderly, who have seen this country
7 to wars and stand tall and have come here tonight.
8 Edith Greenberg, one of my heroes, Cindy Zipf, my sister
9 from the ocean. Jeff Tittel from Sierra Club that
10 stands for the stewardship and the real responsibility
11 owe future generations and each other. There are so
12 many more and everybody has spoken so eloquently, I just
13 want to address a few issues, mainly the money. This
14 particular organization comes from a bank which the
15 taxpayers in the Cayman Islands, and I have a problem
16 with lack of transparency. I have lack of transparency
17 with the initiation process, the loophole, which for
18 some Godforsaken reason has bypassed the Clean Air Water
19 Act that was enacted by President Nixon -- and he did do
20 some wonderful things for this country back in 1971.
21 How can we be regulated when I dig a well in my farm,
22 and yet these people are owning billions are
23 unregulated. As far as this one-way route is concerned
24 with the ships, they're now making ships that are six
25 times bigger than the aircraft carrier limits. Which

1 means that if out at sea, you can flip a switch, with
2 all due respect to them, and convert. Now the gas
3 industry, with a natural gas industry this is a very,
4 very dangerous process because it brings into jeopardy
5 our future survival. We're not going to be needing
6 natural gas in the future, we're going to be needing
7 water and we're going to be needing food. And that's
8 what we rely on. And we cannot have these toxins passed
9 under us. What is more important is that people escaped
10 monarchy in England to come to this great country. We
11 fought for our independence. We fight to this day.
12 Soldiers in Afghanistan are not thinking about
13 compressed stations. They're thinking about beautiful
14 tall trees, Pennsylvania, Huntington, Pennsylvania
15 having a garden to play with. Having air and a quiet
16 enjoyment of this existence. It is a really terrible
17 fact when you feel betrayed by our government. And
18 quite bothersome the president, who I voted for twice,
19 who turns around and applauds the natural gas industry.
20 That now is a salesman, that is not my president. And I
21 want to be proud of this country. I want to maintain my
22 Americanship and I applaud all these Rockwellian
23 creatures, these Norman Rockwell people that still
24 believe we have a voice. Because quite frankly, I think
25 we don't. I think we have a corporate monarchy.

1 MS. MATHER: Thank you.

2 (Applause)

3 MS. AXELROD: The main thing is people are
4 afraid. The opposite of love is not hate, it is fear.
5 We come here fearfully and we ask to be heard. And I
6 hope you're listening.

7 MS. MATHER: After Scott comes Jim Loughran,
8 I believe. Scott Winter.

9 MR. WINTER: Yes, hi. Scott Winter I am the
10 president and business manager of the Outrigger
11 Engineers and Vice President of the Maritime Trade
12 Department. On behalf of my union, I'd like to thank
13 you for the opportunity to speak with you this evening.
14 Unions have a long history of providing the opportunity
15 for ordinary people, like me, to stand up and be heard
16 about projects that are our bread and butter issues. My
17 union covers a vast geographic coverage area, from Maine
18 all the way to Texas performing all the dredging, beach
19 replenishment, offshore cable, pipeline projects and
20 various other marine industry work. I am here to speak
21 about the job creation aspect of this project and to
22 also refute some of the misconceptions about the
23 project's plan. Clean Ocean Action presented the
24 statement to the public in which they referred to as
25 their fact sheet. However, their statements are

1 misleading regarding the facts of this project. In
2 fact, so misleading that the information being
3 disseminated is being utilized to sway the public
4 opinion against this project. First, I'll make a
5 comment regarding the exportation of the gas in this
6 pipeline. Clean Ocean Action's facts sheet states that
7 the LNG port will be used for both importing and
8 exporting of natural gas. This is the most important
9 misconception regarding this project. In fact, this
10 project's permit for the state and Federal Government is
11 for import only, not export. There will be no
12 exportation of the natural gas from this project,
13 period. If what I'm stating is indeed a fact, then the
14 environmental organizations currently opposed to this
15 project, should be for it, not against it, as this
16 project would reduce the overall need for fracking.

17 Second, I'll make a comment regarding the
18 industrialization of the ocean. Clean Ocean Action's
19 opposition statement allude to the project being in the
20 middle of the proposed offshore wind area. This is
21 another misconception. This project will not impede
22 offshore wind development. By large, my local union is
23 proposed to provide a great deal of the labor resource
24 for the offshore wind industry. I have been the leading
25 organized labor advocate for the offshore wind industry

1 and I have been intricately involved with the offshore
2 wind project from its infancy stages. Therefore, I can
3 inform you with all certainty, that this project will
4 not impede offshore wind development. In fact, I would
5 believe that the only opposition to offshore wind
6 industry would be the environmentalist opposed to
7 industrialization of the ocean. How can those opposed
8 to industrialization of the ocean endure offshore wind
9 development when clearly, that project could be seen as
10 ocean industrialization? With over 800 miles of
11 offshore cable lane, local wind farms, connection
12 stations, conversion stations and many other ocean
13 activities --

14 MS. MATHERS: That's it.

15 MR. WINTER: That's three minutes?

16 MS. MATHER: And you were fast, I'm afraid
17 so. Thank you. After Jim -- as a former speech
18 teacher, you're always supposed to practice the three
19 minutes ahead of time. At any rate, Jim is -- Jim is
20 not, okay. L-o-u-g -- I'm sorry and thank you, Jim.
21 Hold on a second. After you is Tom and I'll massacre
22 another one, it look like VonLinden, but Jim.

23 MR. LOUGHRAN: My name is Jim Loughran. I'm
24 a commercial fisherman for 40 years out of Point
25 Pleasant, New Jersey. I'm on the board directors of the

1 Jersey Shore Cooperative in Point Pleasant, Board of
2 Directors of Garden State Seafood Association and I'm
3 also representing the Belford Seafood Coop out of
4 Middletown whose president can't make it at this meeting
5 due to a health problem today. We remain strongly
6 opposed to these LNG proposals. It's not just Liberty,
7 it was the ones prior to this, Exxon Mobil and Insanity
8 Island, so forth and so on. Our industry, Garden State
9 Seafood Association represents hundreds of fishermen and
10 related businesses. Our industry contributes over a
11 billion dollars a year to New Jersey economy. New
12 York's commercial fishermen industry contributes over a
13 billion dollars a year to their economy. We want to
14 talk jobs, let's not talk about the six full-time jobs
15 from an LNG company, let's talk about my job. I've been
16 doing it for 40 years. My father and his father. I go
17 back 80 years in my family as fishermen off of this
18 coast. These are the jobs that matter. Clean fish, not
19 dirty water. I have fished these grounds. I know they
20 moved this site a few miles away from the other site,
21 it's less intrusive in my grounds, but I have fished
22 where the new proposal is. I've caught yellowtail
23 flounder, scallops and loligo squid and other fishermen
24 too have. I can tell you, I have seen the map provided
25 to you by National Fishery Service track plotting and

1 what species they caught. And I can tell you every boat
2 in New Jersey that has is a track plotter and that's
3 about all of them, and those in the trawl industry,
4 could show you that exact same map, except times that by
5 100 because we've all been there. You're in our fishing
6 grounds. You're also situated in between two major
7 shipping lanes. We're dealing with an LNG tanker, the
8 size of the Empire State Building. If it blows up and
9 geez, you know, there's terrorists out there, it has a
10 five mile blast zone. It's many times more powerful
11 than a bomb that blew up Hiroshima. That is what we're
12 dealing with. This is why they can't site it near New
13 York City, it's got to be so far off shore. This is
14 dangerous stuff. This is essential fish habitat for
15 endangered species such as the northern right whale who
16 this is right in their migratory path. I've seen many
17 fin whales out there, leather back turtles, lagerhead
18 turtles, Kemp's Ridley turtles, one of the most
19 endangered species on the planet. Many, many, okay?
20 Now it's very disturbing that this project just keeps
21 coming up again and again and again. And while the
22 public is here, Liberty is busy greasing the palms in
23 Washington and that's where they're at. Let's remember
24 this is a government for the people, by the people and
25 of the people, and some words like that. And the people

1 are speaking here and they're speaking opposed to this
2 project and opposed to the commercialization of our
3 ocean and the industrialization of the New York Bight --

4 MS. MATHER: Thank you, thank you.

5 (Applause)

6 MS. MATHER: Tom, and then after Tom is
7 Allen Francis. Tom, could you spell your last name?

8 MR. VonLINDERN: Tom, last name is
9 V-o-n-L-i-n-d-e-r-n. Thanks, hi. Into the mic, okay.
10 Last night I downloaded the project need from Liberty
11 Gas and it seems like the major justification is that it
12 will save 325 million dollars to the New York consumer
13 and New York area consumers, which seems to me to be a
14 boldface lie. Natural gas in this area is selling now
15 for about \$4 per million BTUs. I have an article from
16 the Financial Times of London from June 14th that
17 indicates that the world price for natural gas is
18 average \$16.76 per million BTU. So it seems to me that
19 unless there's some phantom philanthropist who's willing
20 to bring natural gas into this area for one-quarter of
21 what he could get somewhere else, this is just a lie.
22 Another lie that I'd like to address that's been
23 perpetuated here a number of times is the relative
24 cleanness of liquified natural gas. Liquified natural
25 gas takes approximately the same amount of energy to

1 liquefy the gas as is contained in the gas, which makes
2 liquified natural gas as dirty as coal and 40 percent
3 dirtier than oil. That's it.

4 MS. MATHER: Thank you, sir. After Alan who
5 I think is coming forward is Debbie -- it looks like
6 Mans, but Alan and that's Francis, right?

7 MR. FRANCIS: That's correct, F-r-a-n-c-i-s.
8 I'm a retired tug captain and business agent of Local
9 25. I've worked on pipelines in New York Harbor, Boston
10 Harbor and I've watched these pipelines be put in at all
11 costs, anything goes attitude of the MG companies to a
12 strict policy of enforcement of environmental
13 regulations. In fact, even as a business agent I had to
14 go up in Boston to an 8-hour environmental course and I
15 had to pass that course before I was allowed on the job.
16 And that's my experience up in Boston with the LNG
17 facility up in Mystic River that's been operating in a
18 very safe and environmentally compatible manner for
19 many, many years and the Coast Guard does an excellent
20 job. I may be bias, but I think the Coast Guard is one
21 of the best organizations that our government operates.
22 Now we all use fossil fuels in every facet of our life.
23 The question I have is do we stop using these products
24 while we develop alternatives? Right now in a flyer
25 that was handed out, we only use 3 percent of wind

1 energy and .003 percent of solar energy. We cannot turn
2 the clock back to where our energy use is negligible.
3 We cannot stop the world while we develop these
4 necessary alternative energy sources. We must take the
5 environmental emotionalism out of our arguments and we
6 must take the build at all costs out of the equation. I
7 urge you to base your decisions on fact and fact alone.
8 We cannot rely or we cannot base our decisions on future
9 fears, what might happen or misconceptions or
10 misinformation or especially the "not in my backyard
11 syndrome." And I urge you that you make your decision
12 based on the facts, but scientific facts. Thank you.

13 MS. MATHER: Thank you, sir. After Debbie
14 who is coming forward, is Mike Curry. Debbie, spell
15 your last name.

16 MS. MANS: Mans, M-a-n-s. Debbie Mans. I'm
17 the Bay Keeper and executive director for New York and
18 New Jersey Bay Keeper and we've been working to protect,
19 preserve and restore the harbor actuary for over 20
20 years. The LNG Port Ambrose proposal is harmful to New
21 York and New Jersey's harbor actuary, the plant and
22 animal species that reside within and around these
23 waterways and the people that rely economically and
24 recreationally on these waterways. And that's why Bay
25 Keeper opposes this project. It is important to realize

1 that the LNG Port Ambrose site would not only impact the
2 ocean, but also our harbor actuary and it's in close
3 proximity to the busy entrance of New York, New Jersey
4 harbor. The potential for water pollution throughout
5 the construction process and during the management of
6 the LNG port is high, if not inevitable which would
7 directly impact our harbor actuary, threatening the
8 health of our waterways. Bay Keeper strives to ensure
9 clean and healthy waterways for natural and human
10 communities. And we've learned from the past that one
11 mistake can pollute our waterways for an indefinite
12 amount of time. It would be an egregious mistake to
13 allow LNG facilities to be built in our waterway.
14 Recently we have struggled to cope with the abundant
15 pollution in the harbor actuary from Superstorm Sandy, a
16 singular event. The consequences of pollution over the
17 extended period of time that this LNG port would be
18 built and run will devastate both the waterways that
19 people rely on daily for economic and recreational
20 activities such as fishing and boating, but also the
21 natural ecosystem that is already in grave danger from
22 pollution and inappropriate development in the past.

23 MS. MATHER: Thank you. After Mike Curry
24 who's coming forward, then after Mike is John Burke.

25 MR. CURRY: Thank you very much. First and

1 foremost, I'd like to congratulate Cindy Zipf on putting
2 such a handsome crowd together, a very good looking
3 bunch we got here. Thank you, Cindy, good job. My name
4 is Mike Curry. I'm a business agent with Local 25. I
5 live in Howell, New Jersey and I was raised in New
6 Jersey and I've lived in Monmouth County for the last 32
7 years. My family and I spend many days and nights on
8 the beaches of New Jersey, from Manasquan to Cape May. I
9 certainly don't want to see any harm done to the beaches
10 of this great state. But my job is to put men to work,
11 work as everyone in this state knows is not very good
12 right now. The work situation is rather bleak.
13 Unemployment-wise I think we rank nearly tops in the
14 country. So work is at a premium right now and we can
15 use all the work we can get. I speak on the phone many
16 days to guys who literally cry because their homes are
17 in foreclosure or their cars are being repossessed and
18 they don't have healthcare, they can't afford COBRA
19 payments for their family. They just can't make ends
20 meet and we don't have any work to offer them. This is
21 a unique opportunity. We can put guys to work. We can
22 put people to work in this state at relatively no cost
23 at all to the taxpayers. Liberty Natural Gas is going
24 to foot the entire bill for this project and when it's
25 all complete, what we'll end up with is I believe we'll

1 have some cheaper gas, natural gas rates and it won't
2 cost us anything out of pocket. Put people to work and
3 it might help the economy. So what we're being faced
4 with tonight I believe is a lot of scare tactics.
5 People talking about fracking and I've looked over the
6 plans for this project, I don't see any mention in the
7 permit process of fracking. I seem to hear an awful lot
8 of it tonight and I don't believe this project is about
9 fracking. We can't base -- we can't judge this project
10 on what might happen in the future. We have to base it
11 on the permits that it's applied for and fracking is not
12 part of that. It's a scare tactic. The reality is it
13 will have a minimal impact on the ocean. Dredging that
14 we do for a living every day of the week has a much
15 greater impact on the ocean than this project ever will.
16 So I think we need to stick to the facts, we need to
17 think about what's good for New Jersey. This is not
18 going to harm -- I understand everybody has good
19 intentions, but I think that you're being a little
20 mislead on this project. I don't think it's nearly as
21 harmful as you're being told. I don't think there's any
22 danger. It's 13 miles away from us and I think we all
23 need to sit back, look at the facts and rationally make
24 a decision. This project would be great for the state
25 of New Jersey. Thank you.

1 (Applause)

2 MS. MATHER: After John is Robert Benny, I
3 believe. John is Burke with an E, right?

4 MR. BURKE: Yeah, Burke with an E. Hi, I'm
5 John Burke. I'm just a concerned citizen, resident of
6 the Jersey shore, yeah, a voter. I'm also a retired
7 Wall Street professional and a full-time finance
8 professor at Monmouth University. I think this project
9 creates risks to our communities and our environment and
10 our resources for little to no social good. We don't
11 need more natural gas. We really don't. The economics
12 of this really look like a trojan horse to me. I mean,
13 yeah, sure, it's called an import facility right now,
14 but the economics on their face -- I'm also a chess
15 player, by the way and I understand strategy. The
16 economics on their face really dictate that this is
17 really ultimately for export. I believe it would be
18 followed by an application for a liquification facility
19 and then conversion to export. This morning, natural
20 gas in the United States was \$3.67 per million BTUs.
21 And we are just now becoming on that export because of
22 all that fracking that is going on so we have ample
23 supply of gas. Europe net importers, natural gas is
24 \$9.92. Japan and Asia net import is \$17.71. So do I
25 really believe this is for import? No, not really. All

1 right, we don't need to risk our communities, our
2 beaches and our people, so a privately held
3 foreign-owned corporation that's exempt from the Clean
4 Water Act can profit from this facility off our shores.

5 Secondly, I find it really pretty offensive
6 that this big thing, 1,500 pages was snuck in here. I'm
7 from the Jersey shore. Why isn't this in Sandy Hook?
8 Why do I have to come here to Edison? I don't have time
9 to review it and analyze it and comment on it properly
10 and we need more time, we really, really do. And that's
11 it.

12 MS. MATHER: Thank you.

13 MR. BURKE: And obviously I'm opposed.

14 MS. MATHER: After Robert is Bob Tak-- and
15 he's going to have to do the rest of it, but Robert,
16 would you spell your last name, please?

17 MR. BENNEKAMPER: Sure,
18 B-e-n-n-e-k-a-m-p-e-r. I'd like to say to the fellows
19 from Local 825 that hopefully there is going to be an
20 awful lot of work for them to do fortifying Manhattan
21 Island against sea level rise and they won't invade this
22 project. But to go beyond that, if energy independence
23 is our national priority and it should be, then neither
24 export, nor import is in the national interest and that
25 alone should be enough to deny this project. Thank you.

1 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Bob, whose last
2 name I'm massacring and then after you is Laura Bagwell.
3 Bob, would you spell your last name, please?

4 MR. TAKASH: Yes, Takash, T-a-k-a-s-h. I'm
5 an Edison resident. I am in agreement with most of
6 those earlier speakers tonight, Congressman Pallone's
7 office, Jeff Tittel, Jim Walsh, Cindy Zipf and her crew
8 quoting Ms. McNamara, who did a great job getting
9 everything in in three minutes, Edison Wetland
10 Association and Debbie Mans. I also do not support or
11 desire any offshore hydrocarbon activity as proposed.
12 The concept of "not in my backyard" does impact my New
13 Jersey residency, those other residents who are living
14 in this very large, populated location. It also affects
15 substantial workers who travel in and are employed in
16 these areas. You can look at the Middlesex County
17 Transportation Plan which was just being adopted has
18 professional data showing what kind of numbers we're
19 talking about here. There are very large concerns as
20 you heard tonight, about the fishing activities,
21 shipping, land, marine life disturbance and increased
22 storm threats. I wish to reiterate my opposition to
23 building this LNG facility. Realistically it's a
24 bifurcated application. That process, the export phase
25 will not be offered at this time, it will be dovetailed

1 both operationally and economically with proposed import
2 LNG project. We don't need it, we don't want it. Your
3 administrative discipline rule is necessary. Please
4 note, all the substantial environmental issues you've
5 heard tonight, there's emergency failures that wasn't
6 even properly addressed. These are paramount concerns.
7 I've lived here in Edison many years. We went through a
8 horrible natural gas explosion. I saw those faces of
9 those people. We also in New Jersey went through
10 horrible storms of Irene and of course, Superstorm
11 Sandy. I am with the others about what happened in the
12 Gulf of Mexico. So my advice to the management and the
13 staff, go elsewhere. Get your stuff from the
14 third-world countries. Don't reduce our area to a
15 third-world status.

16 MS. MATHER: Laura? Laura? Laura going
17 once, Laura going twice?

18 MS. BAGWELL: Hi.

19 MS. MATHER: Thank you, Laura. I'm glad
20 you're ready to go. Beyond you is Bonnie Webber.
21 Laura.

22 MS. BAGWELL: My name is Laura Bagwell,
23 B-a-g-w-e-l-l. I thank you so much for giving us this
24 opportunity. I'm very happy that I found it. It was a
25 little far. I am representing the Red Bank

1 Environmental Commission. And we had passed a
2 resolution in 2010 when three LNG projects were brought
3 in the clean ocean zone. So I resurrected that at our
4 meeting last night and we re-passed the resolution
5 opposing this project. And I will submit this to you,
6 so I don't have to read it, because everything in here
7 has been very eloquently spoken about already and I'm
8 not great at public speaking. So I just wanted to say
9 that I did a little research and I went on Fox Business
10 and I read an article and there was a chief economist
11 for ConocoPhillips that studies have shown that LNG
12 exports would increase domestic gas prices at most one
13 dollar per million BTU, keeping price for American shell
14 gas under six dollars. This price would spur more
15 drilling. And everything else I read, something from
16 the CEO Rick Tillerson of Exxon Mobil is pressuring the
17 government to increase exporting of LNG. This troubles
18 me. Hydraulic fracturing is completely linked to LNG
19 and I know this is supposed to be an import only, but
20 economically it doesn't make sense and it just doesn't
21 make sense. Once a giant plant is built and it is
22 becoming uneconomical, what are you going to do, just
23 leave it there? It's going to switch to export. So
24 we're very, very concerned about that. And that's why
25 we're going to reiterate our opposition to the governor

1 and we ask you to deny this permit, thank you.

2 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Bonnie. And after
3 Bonnie is Lynn Schanbach.

4 MS. WEBER: My name is Bonnie Lane Weber.
5 I'm a citizen activist. I live in New York City and I
6 have spent my life at the Jersey shore in the summers,
7 two weeks at a time or whatever and I love it and I care
8 very much about it. I want to know, who is paying for
9 all of this? Who is paying for this meeting? Who is
10 paying for the EIS? Who is paying for the scoping
11 rights? Who is paying for the outreach that wasn't done
12 very well, guys? Who is paying to arrange the
13 alternatives? Who is paying for the draft EIS? Who is
14 paying for the then public comment, then the final EIS,
15 then one more comment period? Who is paying for all of
16 that when we could have just asked the mayor, the
17 governors in the beginning and decided by a vote of the
18 governors? So as an activist, I'm saying to everybody
19 in this room and everybody you know, if each of us asks
20 10 people to call the governors and speak out against
21 this project, and when you ask those 10 people, ask them
22 to ask 10 more people and then ask them to ask 10 more
23 people and let's let the governors know that we don't
24 want this. And I was sitting here thinking okay, ask
25 them to call 50 people, 100 people? No, 10 people is

1 not that much and then ask them, okay? You got to
2 promise me you'll do that. The information is probably
3 on Cindy's website, if not it's on saveenergy.org. I
4 also just want to say that this, you know, all this gas
5 drilling and the import/export and all of that, they all
6 say it will be done safely, but accidents happen. And
7 it's human error and that's what really scares me. We
8 have a pipeline at Christianson Basin that goes over a
9 fault line. I mean, what kind of an accident is that?
10 Somebody just wasn't paying attention. So make your
11 phone calls. 10 people. Have them call both governors
12 and those people have to call 10 people. You got the
13 picture, right? Thanks.

14 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Lynn? Thank you,
15 Lynn. My apologies for what I did to your name. After
16 you is Joe Mitro, I believe. Lynn, spell your last
17 name.

18 MS. SCHAMBACH: My last name is Schambach.
19 S-c-h-a-m-b-a-c-h. I live in Brielle, New Jersey. I've
20 been a Jersey shore resident for 41 years. I'm here on
21 behalf of myself, my family, my mother-in-law who has a
22 small business in Sea Girt for 43 years. God bless her,
23 she's 87 years old, and any other beach and ocean lover.
24 I oppose the proposal for the LNG facility for all the
25 reasons everyone here has said they oppose it. So many

1 important reasons, whether someone wants to say it's
2 based on fear, accidents happen and we can't undue an
3 accident. So to make it brief, I just want to say that
4 I think that or I know that a disaster at a deepwater
5 port with associated pipelines and tankers will threaten
6 the marine environment, our shoreline, our tourism,
7 local businesses, New Jersey and New York's economy, our
8 way of life at the shore. And for the record, I support
9 a clean ocean zone to permanently protect the waters in
10 the New York and New Jersey bight from fossil fuel
11 industrialization, pollution and exploitation. Thank
12 you.

13 MS. MATHER: Back there? Okay, and after
14 Joe is Krissy Halkes.

15 MR. MAIRO: Hello, my name is Joe Mairo,
16 M-a-i-r-o. I'm a public school teacher. I teach
17 biology and environmental science. I'm also a surfer
18 and a surf fisherman. And I'm also a member of the Surf
19 Rider Foundation and tonight I'm speaking on behalf of
20 the Jersey Shore Chapter of the Surf Rider Foundation.
21 Surf Rider is an environmental organization that works
22 to protect our coastal environment through conservation,
23 activism, research and education. The Jersey Shore
24 Chapter has over 900 members, some of them are here with
25 me tonight. Outside of New Jersey, in the Jersey Shore,

1 we have 250,000 members worldwide and a presence in 18
2 countries. The Jersey Shore Chapter is opposed to the
3 Port Ambrose LNG terminal and is campaigning to urge
4 Governor Christie to, once again, exercise his option to
5 reject the facility. We believe it's a step in the
6 wrong direction. As many people have said already,
7 natural gas is a nonrenewable fossil fuel and by
8 definition is unsustainable. Someone said, well,
9 natural gas burns cleaner than the other popular
10 fossil fuels and that's true, but like many people have
11 said before, if you look at the overall life cycle of
12 the fuel, from extraction which can include fracking, to
13 the cooling down process, to the transportation process,
14 and then eventually to the burning process, the
15 environmental impact grows and grows. In addition, in
16 response to Sandy, our chapter organized hundreds of
17 volunteers to help people clean up after Hurricane
18 Sandy. And I can just tell you firsthand, you know, I
19 saw the damage. I worked in Belmar and helped people
20 clean out their homes. We had members working along the
21 Bayshore, helping people clean up their homes there.
22 And building this offshore LNG facility in such a
23 vulnerable area and at such a vulnerable time where the
24 Jersey Shore is still recovering, just doesn't make
25 sense to us at all. And finally, many of us might not

1 think of the ocean this way, but I know we do, that the
2 ocean is wilderness. You paddle out into the ocean, you
3 can bet that the experience is essentially the same as
4 it's been for hundreds of years. This project would
5 develop that ocean wilderness and our chapter supports
6 conservation, not LNG industrialization of that
7 wilderness area, thank you.

8 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Krissy is coming
9 forward. After Krissy is Emily Reuman.

10 MS. HALKES: Hi, my name name is Krissy
11 Halkes. I am a volunteer with Surf Rider Foundation
12 South Jersey Chapter. We kind of do down at the beach,
13 where you guys do the shore up here. Our mission at
14 Surf Rider is to protect and enjoy the ocean waves and
15 beaches. Through our membership, we were able to get
16 over 300 e-mails to the governor requesting that this
17 project be rejected. My work with Surf Rider
18 Foundation, as I said, is volunteer and it's because I
19 love the ocean, I strive to protect what I love so that
20 I can enjoy it today and in the future and so that my
21 grandchildren, who aren't even born yet, have an ocean
22 to play in. I am opposed to the Port Ambrose project
23 because I believe it endangers our ocean. I believe
24 that chemically treated seawater and dredging up the sea
25 floor are far from clean and that this is only the very

1 beginning of the possible risks that this facility
2 brings to the health of our ocean and the creatures
3 whose lives depend on it. I'm not just talking about
4 the four legged creatures, the finned and feathered
5 ones, I'm talking about the two legged ones who make
6 their living from the ocean and the beach, meaning the
7 local small businesses, the fishermen and those that
8 depend on the beach and the ocean for their income. We
9 depend on it in part because of the beach loving
10 tourists who frequent the small businesses as they spend
11 their precious vacation time and their dollars at the
12 beach. And I want to protect it for folks like me who
13 love the ocean just for the beauty and the joy it gives
14 me. Additionally, I'm kind of sorry that all those
15 marine union worker guys left because it is my
16 understanding that although this application was for an
17 import facility, there is the possibility that it could
18 become an export. And he seems so certain that that
19 would never happen. I don't think life is that certain.
20 I question the number of jobs that this project will
21 bring. Will those employees be locals, for how long?
22 And how would that go up against the jobs that would be
23 lost if the ocean became something nobody wanted to play
24 in anymore? I ask you to reject the Port Ambrose
25 project for the health of our ocean and I appreciate you

1 letting me speak today. Thank you.

2 (Applause)

3 MS. MATHER: Emily is making her way up
4 here. After her is Jim Rapp.

5 MS. REUMAN: Good evening. My name is Emily
6 Reuman, R-e-u-m-a-n. I wanted to speak to the fact that
7 although all the union gentlemen left, right at 8 p.m. I
8 noticed, they did mention that dredging is bad. Well,
9 in fact, this project requires 22 miles of dredging in
10 our ocean. So if the union gentlemen are saying that, I
11 think we should probably take that into account, how
12 serious this is.

13 I also wanted to note that yesterday, you
14 know, we were told that this hearing was held close to
15 the affected communities in Long Beach and that's why
16 the hearing was held there, but then why today was the
17 hearing held here in Edison, New Jersey which is so far
18 from the communities who will actually be affected by
19 this project? It was quite difficult to get here for so
20 many people, so I wanted to note that as well.

21 Just yesterday, the U.S. Coast Guard
22 confirmed a natural gas leak in the Gulf of Mexico that
23 forced the evacuation of a gas protection platform 74
24 miles southwest of Louisiana. The gashing runs over 4
25 miles wide and 3/4 of a mile long. The Jersey shore is

1 too precious for us to invest in these risky
2 technologies that we've seen fail again and again. We
3 can't expose our homes and communities and economy to
4 this technology and we've had enough of it. It's
5 costly, fossil fuel, development, infrastructure,
6 dependence. And just as Governor Christie refused the
7 project in 2011 because it undermines renewable
8 investment, we demand renewable and sustainable future.
9 Thank you so much.

10 MS. MATHER: Okay, Jim Rapp is next and
11 after Jim is Janice Rapp.

12 MR. RAPP: Janice is, of course, my wife and
13 she is tired and does not want to speak tonight, but I
14 will speak. I stand today as a lifelong New Jersey
15 resident strongly shoulder to shoulder, Jersey strong
16 next to Governor Christie in opposition of the Port
17 Ambrose LNG export/import facility. I regard this
18 facility as yet just the next cut in a death of a
19 thousand cuts that America is suffering from the natural
20 gas and petroleum industry. They have pretended to us
21 that this is the bridge fuel into the future when yet in
22 fact, it is only a bridge to the last century. The
23 fracking has been proven to be unsafe. It is polluting
24 aquifers and displacing existing industries that have
25 supported rural American communities for hundreds of

1 years, well in excess of the 20-year time frame of this
2 fracked gas that they think is so wonderful and is now
3 the new wheel.

4 I'd like to also speak about the financing,
5 the financing of natural gas, now operating under
6 considerable loss to the industry. It is all being
7 financed by a derivative product that has been spoken
8 about on MSNBC and CNBC as the same exact product that
9 brought down the global economy most recently. What is
10 going to happen to this facility? What is going to
11 happen to all the pipelines, compressors? All of the
12 infrastructure that's being built when all of these
13 companies, just like this one that's based in Delaware
14 or the Cayman Islands or something just decides that
15 it's not profitable and they've made enough money, who
16 pays the bills? The taxpayers. The taxpayer always
17 pays the bill no matter what, for everything. For this
18 meeting, for everything.

19 I would also like to comment on the fact
20 that the natural gas industry in portending these
21 untruths on America is dividing America, at a time when
22 we need to have solidarity to best compete in this ever
23 changing troubled world in which we live. As a world
24 looks for us to lead, we cannot allow the smallest
25 minds, those with no moral compass other than the

1 almighty dollar to lead us back to the last century as
2 the rest of the world moves in a progressive way towards
3 clean energy, sustainable, safe economies for their
4 societies to grow. We are a nation that is moving in
5 the wrong direction because we have allowed our
6 government to be overtaken by petroleum prostitutes who
7 have been placed in positions of high office throughout
8 our nation in a 20 or 30-year scam and now here we are
9 today with destruction, lies and a ceasing of American
10 properties through the polluting of aquifers necessary
11 for people to live in those. We have a right to remain
12 in our home, unmolested.

13 MS. MATHER: Thank you. I have a piece of
14 information for you. There's a red Jetta outside with
15 Massachusetts plates and lights on. So, if that
16 pertains to anybody. Now Michael Empry and then after
17 Michael is Klaus Rittenbach. Is Michael here? Michael
18 going once? Michael in the green shirt? No, okay.
19 Michael going once, twice, three. Klaus I'm going to
20 guess is in a green shirt, good, and then Paul Schilling
21 is next.

22 MR. RITTENBACH: Hi, my name is Klaus
23 Rittenbach. I'm from Freehold, New Jersey, a lifelong
24 resident. I worked for the Department of Defense for 32
25 years and I'm here to tell you that a liquid natural gas

1 terminal is a potential national security disaster. LNG
2 terminal is a prime target for terrorists. We seem to
3 have forgotten about 9/11 just 12 years ago. We seem to
4 have forgotten about the attack on the USS Cole. I'm
5 quoting here from reports by the U.S. Department of
6 Energy and from the Council on Foreign Relations.
7 Quote, "Because of LNG's highly explosive potential, Al
8 Qaeda has specifically cited LNG terminals and LNG
9 boats as desirable targets. LNG terminals make better
10 targets because an attack could result in a massive fire
11 that could potentially kill huge numbers of people. A
12 successful terrorist attack on an LNG tanker could
13 result in as many as 8,000 deaths and 20,000 injuries."
14 Now remember, 9/11 only resulted in about 3,000 deaths.
15 So I ask you, do you want to be responsible for 8,000
16 deaths? Another scenario in the report involves
17 terrorists taking control of an LNG tanker, sailing it
18 into a major population center such as New York City and
19 detonating the cargo. That would kill far more than
20 8,000. Another scenario is because of its low cost and
21 high impact, a USS Cole-style attack. The defense
22 planners say it's not a difficult thing to do if you're
23 determined to do it. It doesn't require trained experts
24 to evade the Coast Guard. The time to detect and
25 intersect a rapidly moving small boat in a harbor could

1 be as little at two to three minutes. A fast boat
2 loaded with explosives and suicide bombers is likely to
3 evade most small Coast Guard patrol crafts. The Coast
4 Guard is designed primarily for safety patrol. They are
5 not designed for armed combat. And on top of that, the
6 Coast Guard is woefully underfunded. So the bottom line
7 is, do you want to be responsible for another terrorist
8 disaster like the USS Cole right here in New Jersey? Do
9 you want to be responsible for another 9/11 or worse
10 right here in New Jersey? Do you want to be like
11 Condaleeza Rice who had to apologize for 9/11 because
12 she never imagined that airplanes could be used as
13 missiles? Or do you want to use common sense and deny
14 this nightmare of a terminal? Thank you.

15 (Applause)

16 MS. MATHER: Paul, and after Paul comes
17 Bruce Smith. Paul?

18 MR. PAUL: Yeah, Hi Linda. Thanks for this
19 opportunity to comment. I'm going to be very brief.
20 I'm the secretary for the executive board of the Surf
21 Rider Jersey Shore Chapter. As was mentioned earlier,
22 we have 900 members in our chapter. And our executive
23 board is opposed to this project for the reasons
24 previously given by my Surf Rider colleagues and by
25 Clean Ocean Action and so that concludes my comments.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. MATHER: Thank you, Paul. After, I'm
3 sorry, Bruce Smith is next and after Bruce comes Lynn
4 Blake.

5 MR. SMITH: Hi, my name is Bruce Smith. I'm
6 a member of the Sandy Hook Bay Owners, Atlantic
7 Highlands, New Jersey. Sandy Hook Bay Owners is also a
8 member of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association which is
9 an association of recreational fishing clubs in New
10 Jersey numbering about 75 clubs in all and thousands of
11 members. We're a relatively small player on this, but
12 we've been active in the anti-LNG movement for five
13 years or so. Going back five years, many of us asked
14 what's the big deal of import versus export? And the
15 answer was, very little. It's practically flip a switch
16 and export more than import. So what's the in game?
17 The in game has always been export and the other
18 speakers tonight have commented on that. And it's
19 always an advantage to speak last, because everybody
20 else said everything you wanted to say. So I'll leave
21 it at this, that I agree with all the people and all the
22 comments that were negative, anti-LNG. Nothing has
23 changed. Only the application has changed to try to
24 hoodwink us again. We don't need LNG. We've got LNG to
25 spare. So what's the sense of exporting it? To make

1 somebody a lot of money, that's all. So one of my
2 concerns, the last gentleman, the one recent gentlemen
3 here talked about the safety issues. That was on my top
4 list, but the safety issue might never happen. It could
5 go on for 50 years and not have an explosion or a
6 hijacking. Regardless of that, with all the
7 construction and preparation, the exclusions of
8 commercial activities in the New York Bight, the
9 negative impacts on recreational haggling and the
10 negative impacts or potential impacts on recreation and
11 tourism in our state, major concerns. So the Jersey
12 Coast Anglers continues to oppose the LNG project
13 proposed for this area, whether it be import or export.
14 And my last thought is that I challenge you folks to
15 come up with a site in the lower 48 states that would
16 propose a greater negative impact on general
17 populations, commercial fishing, recreational angling,
18 marine biomass or potential catastrophic event.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. MATHER: Thank you. Next is Lynn Blake.
21 And after Lynn Blake is Annie Wilson. Ms. Blake going
22 once? Twice? Three times? Annie Wilson. Charles
23 K-r-a-t-o-r-i-l? Charles? Britta Wilson?

24 MS. WILSON: I'm Annie Wilson. Is the
25 person ahead of me here? No?

1 MS. MATHER: No, but two people after you.
2 Let's go.

3 MS. WILSON: Hi, I'm Annie Wilson. I'm from
4 the New York Environmental Law and Justice Project and
5 the Environmental Justice Committee National Lawyers
6 Guild and these are preliminary comments. We'll be
7 submitting written comments by the due date. The
8 overview of this proposal, first request that somehow
9 the formalities regarding the application, that the
10 application should be complete prior to the notice of
11 intent and notice of public meeting and request for
12 comments. That should be maybe revised. The
13 segregation issues around this matter are again,
14 foremost. There hasn't been any interaction within the
15 different agencies within the pipeline expansion,
16 fracking the states. This is an isolated project. We
17 now live in a global community. We cannot ignore the
18 bigger impacts on our climate crisis. Fossil fuel
19 infrastructures should not be expanded and in this case,
20 it is in our backyard and it's in everybody's backyard
21 given the times we live in. And also, the
22 interconnections to the pipeline, transfer pipeline,
23 there can be a requirement that they will have to extend
24 to New York City, Brooklyn, that's as of right. And
25 this project will benefit a few and certainly will not

1 benefit most of us and our environment and the animals
2 that will be impacted as well. The NEPA requirements
3 will require terrorist review. And so for those in the
4 room, there's an opportunity here to address those
5 concerns. And thank you very much for the opportunity.

6 MS. MATHER: Thank you. And my guess is
7 that that's Britta behind you? After Britta is Dave
8 Pringle.

9 MS. FORSBERG WENZEL: Good evening, my name
10 is Britta Forsberg Wenzel and I traveled here tonight
11 all the way from Lavalette in Ocean County, New Jersey.
12 Lavalette is a lovely little town that's located on the
13 barrier island right between some images you may be
14 seeing on TV lately, Mantoloking and Ortley Beach. I
15 have seven properties on the island of which one of them
16 is my home. I'm currently living on the second story
17 with a bed and a microwave. I think it's absolutely
18 outrageous that this proposal is coming up tonight and I
19 have to drive all the way up here to testify about
20 something that I feel so passionately against. This
21 particular project is wrong for the Jersey shore. It's
22 not only wrong for the Jersey shore, it's wrong for the
23 residents that live there. It's wrong for our local
24 economy, our clean economy and for jobs. I'm not a
25 business agent for a union; however, I happen to be half

1 Swedish and half Norwegian so I could have a union
2 meeting in my living room any day of the week. We have
3 pile drivers, dock builders, ship builders, crane
4 operators, captains and tugboat operators in my family
5 on both sides. This project does not propose good,
6 clean jobs, not long-term jobs, jobs that are going to
7 employ and feed families over a lifetime. My husband is
8 a commercial fisherman out of Point Pleasant Beach. I
9 know this seems like a surreal story, but it's probably
10 the story of a lot of families on the Jersey shore that
11 you're not hearing tonight because we're tackling more
12 personal issues like getting electric, which I got last
13 weekend. This project has been wrong not in this
14 particular applicant, but this project has been wrong
15 over a long period of time. I served as an elected
16 official in my municipality for six years and we pass
17 multiple resolutions against similar projects in the
18 past. In addition, I operate several small businesses
19 at the Jersey shore. One of them is called Salty's;
20 maybe you've been there. It's 49 years old. It's a
21 family restaurant, breakfast, lunch, dinner, several ice
22 cream stores and a novelty gift shop. We employ 180
23 people typically in the summertime, but we're not open.
24 My husband's vessel which is a joliet boat which runs
25 out of Point Pleasant typically can employ up to six

1 people. To me these are good, clean jobs. They're not
2 just summer jobs; they're jobs that last all year. They
3 feed families. They're clean. They don't hurt the
4 ocean. There's no dangerous components to them other
5 than if you can't swim or perhaps if you don't have a
6 skill to stay on board.

7 I'm opposed to this project on a personal
8 level as a citizen, as a taxpayer and as a resident. I
9 also serve as the executive director of a group called
10 Save Barnegat Bay. It's a 43-year-old non-profit
11 organization that protects and restores the Barnegat
12 Bay. We're supported by 1,500 families and small
13 businesses and that organization is against this
14 proposal. Thank you for the Coast Guard keeping us safe
15 and please have a hearing in Ocean County or Monmouth
16 County.

17 (Applause)

18 MS. MATHER: Dave Pringle. After Dave is
19 Kim Yousey. Dave.

20 MR. PRINGLE: Thank you. My name is David
21 Pringle. I'm the campaign director for the New Jersey
22 Environmental Federation State Chapter of Clean Water
23 Action. We have over 100,000 members, here in New
24 Jersey. Can I have a show of hands, please, up here too
25 as well, bate and switch, anybody ever hear of it? Bate

1 and switch? That's what's going on here, we all know
2 it. Oh, woe is me. I built this big, fancy project
3 and, you know, I can sell my stuff four times as much
4 over here or 75 percent less over there. Which way will
5 I go? Could I please change my application? I've
6 already built it. Are you guys going to say no then?
7 No way. So let's not be in the tank and be honest and
8 include that as we draft this EIS. Josh Fox said this
9 so I don't want to take his thing, but natural gas isn't
10 a bridge, it's a game plank. The governor vetoed this.
11 He's running for president. He's going to veto it again
12 unless he decides it's better for his interest running
13 for president not to, but then you have the opportunity
14 to run for president and veto it. Trying to think what
15 else hasn't been said tonight. That's really a shame
16 you're wasting your time and our time. It's the same
17 project. We all know it. A couple little different --
18 the details are a little different, but it's actually
19 worse. It's closer to people. It's four times the
20 size. So do us all a favor, just say no. Don't be
21 ignorant. Don't be in the tank. End the process soon.

22 (Applause)

23 MS. MATHER: Kim? I think that's Kim coming
24 across. After Kim is April Gimber -- something. Anyway
25 Kim, Kim could you spell your last name?

1 MS. YOUSEY: Kim Yousey, Y-o-u-s-e-y. I
2 don't have a lot to say. We have economically heated
3 our house with natural gas for over 15 years. Virtually
4 none of it came from a frack matrix. I want to say
5 matrix and not well because if you look at a frack, a
6 fracking fields from the Google, it is many wells in one
7 spot. Now there's a big rush to build a 42-inch low
8 pressure pipeline through my town. There are no local
9 connections planned to bring natural gas service to any
10 homes or businesses. So this overly large pipe appears
11 to be intended for storage. I would like to take issue
12 with the claim that this plant is intended for import.
13 It's pretty obviously not. Fracking fields, pipelines
14 and LNG plants are part of the same infrastructure and
15 they cannot be evaluated individually. Renewable energy
16 is resilient, more so than other types of energy because
17 first, it's not dependent on centralized collection and
18 distribution system. Generation is collocated, usually
19 collocated in the area where it is produced. So for
20 this reason, there's less waste in the transport. I've
21 read statistics from Professor Becker in Pratt
22 Institute, he put on the board a diagram, coal plants in
23 Ohio produce two parts of P energy for every one part of
24 electricity. And then from there, all that electricity
25 diminishes until it gets to energy. So clearly, we do

1 need a better system of generating electricity.
2 However, LNG frack gas is just definitely wrong in my
3 book. I don't buy the idea that this produces jobs
4 because New Jersey was quite quickly on its way to the
5 number two in solar energy production and all the
6 rooftops, impervious area in the state we can produce
7 enough solar energy. We have lots of wind on our coast.
8 We can produce -- the two complement each other and we
9 can produce all the energies we need right there. It's
10 my opinion that this is not based on fear, but disbelief
11 that otherwise --

12 MS. MATHER: Thank you, April. That's it.
13 That's your time.

14 MS. YOUSEY: And as indicated, people are
15 using so little common sense.

16 MS. MATHER: Thank you, it's actually Kim,
17 excuse me. April? Is April going once? Going twice?
18 April? Cecilia? Castel -- here comes Cecilia so she
19 can fix what I just did to her name.

20 MS. CASTELON: That was pretty good.
21 Cecilia Castelon. I'll keep it short and sweet. I
22 second the emotions of many of the anti-LNG comments
23 tonight. So I'm coming here as both a recent college
24 graduate and a daughter. As a daughter, I had the very
25 unique experience of growing up with a mother who

1 suffered from cancer not once, but twice and is still
2 battling it today. For those reasons alone, I'm deeply
3 skeptical and fed up with our dependents on carcinogenic
4 fossil fuel development. I know and I think that you
5 know as well, our prolonged objection with continuing to
6 rely on materials and toxins and chemicals that we know
7 are proven to cause harm to our bodies and to our
8 environment. It is absolutely ignorant and absurd if
9 you ask me. As a 20-something and as a recent college
10 graduate, I am a future taxpayer and a taxpayer right
11 now and I am eager to pay taxes for probably my somewhat
12 middle paying jobs that I'm excited to take on in the
13 next ten years of my life to projects and infrastructure
14 development that leads to an alternative energy economy,
15 leads to a future where I may have the chance to have a
16 daughter and she may have the chance to have a mother
17 that was not sick multiple times in her life. Sometimes
18 connecting all of these dots together in these types of
19 venues can lead to allegations of environmental
20 emotionalism which is what we heard tonight earlier from
21 the fellow, but I think this is a human story and I
22 think this is connecting the dots in a way that we need
23 to be connecting the dots right now. So I would love,
24 as I said, to dedicate my tax dollars to projects that
25 actually lead to a future that I'd be interested in

1 occupying. And an LNG future, a coal future,
2 what-have-you, is not a future I'm interested in finding
3 jobs in or raising my future children in. So I
4 absolutely oppose the development of this LNG terminal
5 site and I hope that you realize that this is not just
6 one generation speaking about this issue, two
7 generations speaking about this issue. This is all of
8 us. This is an intergenerational movement and it's as
9 much about your children, which I'm sure you all care
10 and love dearly about, as it is much about people who
11 are working, paying taxes and looking for jobs today.
12 So thank you.

13 (Applause)

14 MS. MATHER: We've now come to the end of
15 our speaker list and we also are over time, so let me
16 thank you for your cooperation and turn this over to my
17 right.

18 MR. BACHAMAN: Yeah, this concludes the
19 public scoping meeting Port Ambrose Deepwater Port
20 license application here in Edison, New Jersey. We are
21 now adjourned. Thank you, and please have a safe trip
22 home and good night.

23 (Whereupon the proceedings were concluded at
24 8:47 p.m.)

25

CERTIFICATE

I, NADINE M. GAZIC, a Notary Public and Certified Court Reporter of the State of New Jersey, License No. XI01883, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the testimony as taken stenographically by and before me at the time, place and on the date hereinbefore set forth.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a relative nor employee nor attorney nor counsel of any of the parties to this action, and that I am neither a relative nor employee of such attorney or counsel, and that I am not financially interested in the action.

Notary Public of the State of New Jersey

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**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION, BOROUGH OF RED BANK
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING OFFSHORE LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS PORT
FACILITIES IN THE NEW JERSEY/NEW YORK CLEAN OCEAN ZONE**

Ms. Dardi offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the New Jersey/New York Clean Ocean Zone (COZ) is defined as the water from Montauk Point, NY, to Cape May, NJ, offshore to the outer edge of the Continental Shelf (out to 100 miles) and consists of over 19,000 square miles of Atlantic Ocean; and

WHEREAS, the physical, hydrodynamic and biological characteristics of the COZ are unique in the world as more than 300 species of fish, nearly 350 species of birds, seven species of sea turtles, many marine mammals such as 25 species of whales and dolphins and several species of seals and porpoises frequent this region and nine endangered species four of which are whales, can be found in these ocean waters and the COZ also serves as an essential migratory pathway for many of these species; and

WHEREAS, the ecological richness and economic viability of this region depends on a clean marine environment; and

WHEREAS, the COZ is the target location for industrial liquefied natural gas (LNG) port facilities, and

WHEREAS, New York and Connecticut rejected a similar LNG proposal in Long Island Sound, and a proposed LNG facility was also vetoed in California due to significant impacts to marine life and air quality, and

WHEREAS, LNG facilities will devastate important fish habitats, impact endangered, threatened and protected species, damage sea floor habitats and destroy vast quantities of marine life by refilling huge emptied tankers with billions of gallons of seawater to replace LNG cargos which would expose the area to stronger and more frequent hurricanes, nor'easters and wind and wave risks; and

WHEREAS, LNG is an unsafe and risky business where the proposed facilities will straddle shipping lanes in the NY/NJ harbor region, the busiest port on the east coast and the third busiest in the US, will dramatically affect shipping traffic patterns when tankers approach the facility, alter ship traffic and navigation in the busy region and having LNG tankers leaving and entering shipping lanes amidst port traffic will raise the risk of accidents with all vessels such as cargo and oil tankers; and

WHEREAS, LNG is a polluting, climate-changing fossil fuel and the additional lifecycle stages of liquefaction, transportation and gasification emits harmful greenhouse gases (GHG) and LNG produces 20 to 40 percent more greenhouse gases than domestic natural gas; and

WHEREAS, we do not need LNG ports in this region and currently 97 percent of the natural gas used in the United States is from North America, with most of that from the US and existing LNG ports are significantly under-utilized and can more than meet our region's needs; and

WHEREAS, LNG is not domestic and over two-thirds of the world's natural gas reserves are in Russia and the Middle East and proposed sources for NY and NJ include countries like Russia and offshore drilling in Trinidad where environmental laws and controls are often less stringent in these regions and these LNG schemes will increase the burning of polluting GHG emitting fossil fuels and increase our use and dependence on unstable foreign energy sources; and

WHEREAS, the ever-increasing amounts of GHG from burning fossil fuels is changing the chemistry of the sea by increasing its acidity and thereby diminishing the ocean's ability to serve the free and vital role as the earth's largest and most effective absorber of major GHG emissions, as well as making the sea itself harmful to marine life; and

WHEREAS, LNG projects will permanently exclude the public from the ocean with vast areas of the ocean being off limits to the public including boaters and fishing vessels; and

WHEREAS, Liberty Natural Gas LLC's Port Ambrose LNG facility has been proposed and identified for the region; and

WHEREAS, solutions are available and we need to support energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy technologies and projects which are readily available such as educating the public that eight to twelve medium-sized power plants worth of energy could be saved if NJ citizens were energy efficient and by focusing efforts on efficiency, conservation measures and renewable technologies the region can create a win-win situation, decreasing GHG while working toward long term job creation with green technologies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Red Bank of the County of Monmouth hereby opposes the building of Liquefied Natural Gas facilities off the New York/New Jersey coast.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution will be forwarded to the Mayor and Council of Red Bank, as well as to the Governors of the states of New Jersey and New York and to Clean Ocean Action.

Dated: July 9, 2013

Bruce Siegell - Aye

Boris Kofman - Aye

Laura Dardi - Aye

Michael Paul Raspanti - Aye

Laura Bagwell - Aye

Statement of Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr.
Liberty Natural Gas Scoping Hearing
July 10, 2013

I apologize I could not be here with you this evening, but I am in Washington, DC because Congress is voting this evening. I am opposed to the proposed Liberty Natural Gas offshore liquefied natural gas project planned for 24 miles off the coast of Long Branch, New Jersey. This project is strikingly similar to one that was vetoed by Governor Christie in 2011.

Throughout my tenure as an elected official, I have opposed industrial uses of the ocean off the coast of our state. I have fought against offshore oil and gas drilling, as well as worked successfully to end ocean dumping.

Instead of focusing on industrial uses of the ocean, our country and the state of New Jersey should be encouraging renewable energy resources. Any energy development in the Atlantic should be from renewable sources and not polluting fossil fuels. The Obama Administration is prioritizing offshore wind energy development in areas off the Atlantic coast, including New Jersey. This is exactly the type of clean energy America should be investing in that will reduce our dependence on foreign oil and gas and create jobs.

I understand that the LNG project will create jobs during the construction phase, but we must also think of the jobs that would be lost if an LNG spill occurred off our coast. The Jersey Shore is the primary driver of a tourism economy that

sustains nearly 500,000 jobs and generates approximately \$50 billion in economic activity for the state each year. In the late 1980s when beaches were closed due to contaminated material washing ashore, many jobs were lost in the local tourism industry. When the Deepwater Horizon spill occurred in the Gulf of Mexico, local economies felt it the hardest when tourism fell off drastically and commercial fishermen were barred from fishing in large swaths of the gulf. We cannot allow this to happen off our coast.

I am surprised that this proposed project is moving forward given Governor Christie's public opposition to LNG facilities off the coast of New Jersey and prior veto of a similar project in 2011. Under the Deepwater Port Act Governor Christie, as the governor of an adjacent coastal state, has the absolute power to veto the Liberty Natural Gas project.

New Jersey should be taking a national lead on promoting a forward-looking energy policy that moves towards increased use of renewable energy sources that create jobs here at home and away from importing or exporting polluting fossil fuels from other countries. I will continue to work with my colleagues in Congress to incentivize these types of clean energy sources. Thank you.